BRITISH MUSEUM

For meaning of this No. see page iii. of Cover.

No. 132336

JOHN BULL

Vol. VIII. No. 201 | SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 1910. | ONE PENNY.

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

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Waterman's Ideal Fountain Pen

A Poet on Penmanship

Swinburne, writing to E. C. Stedman, says: "Then, very unluckily for me, the mere physical act of writing, which for some men, *e.g.* Rossetti, seems a positive enjoyment, is to me usually a positive and often a painful effort. I have often wished to have lived my life and sung my song in the times of unwritten and purely oral poetry. But I must resign myself to the curse of penmanship—and mine, I fear, is a curse to my friends also. (How Shakespeare must have hated it. Look at his villainous and laborious pothooks, and Ben Jonson's or Milton's copperplate or vigorous perfection of hand.)"

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"John Bull" April 9 1910.

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JOHN BULL.

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Vol. VIII. No. 201. Saturday, April 9th, 1910. One Penny.

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Grand Smoking Concert

IN THE

King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, London,

TO-MORROW,

FRIDAY, APRIL 8th, at 8 p.m.

Chairman:—

HORATIO BOTTOMLEY, ESQ., M.P.

(President of the League.)

MISS ADA REEVE.
MISS MARIE LLOYD, MISS DAISY WOOD, MR. SEYMOUR HICKS, WILKIE BARD, GEORGE MOZART, LEO STORMONT, MR. HARRY DEARTH, MR. JOHN BARDSLEY, MR. NOEL FLEMING, MISS HELEN MARR, MISS DECIMA MOORE, AND MANY OTHER CELEBRITIES.

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THE JOHN BULL LEAGUE.

A Public Meeting

(under the Auspices of the League)

WILL BE HELD IN

THE TOWN HALL, PORTSMOUTH,

ON

FRIDAY, APRIL 15th, 1910.

Chair to be taken at 8 p.m. by the President,

HORATIO BOTTOMLEY, ESQ., M.P.

Doors open at 7 p.m.

MR. LEO STORMONT will sing the League Song.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[*The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.*]

As we go to press—it is Monday—the air is full of all kinds of rumours of compacts and compromises between the Government and the Irish, and even between the two sections of the Nationalists themselves, in regard to the Budget. But we do not think anything will come of it all. Mr. Redmond may allow certain stages of the old Finance Bill to be entered upon, but unless the Prime Minister gets those "guarantees" from the King, when the Lords decline to swallow the Veto pills, there will be no Budget.

Will the King intervene? Mr. Churchill says it is to be a fight between the Crown and the Commons on the one hand and the Peers on the other. And from the way in which Mr. Asquith, who was sitting next to him, cheered those sentiments, it looks as though he had made up his mind—to *ask* for the guarantees. We sincerely hope he will change his mind.

By the way, Mr. Churchill gave the John Bull League a good advertisement. We certainly have no objection to its being associated with the names of Lord Rosebery, Lord Hugh Cecil and Mr. Harold Cox—each of whom, whether we agree with him or not, is at any rate a man of independent character and unimpeachable political integrity. We therefore thank the Home Secretary for his generous tribute to the League. Coming on the top of Mr. Burns's recent quotation of our motto, it would almost appear that we have "arrived."

Mr. F. E. Smith has come back to his best form. His speech on the Veto resolutions was the finest thing he has done since his maiden effort. If he will now conserve his Parliamentary energies a little more than he did in the last Parliament he will have no difficulty in maintaining his unique position. He has nothing to fear from any of the new men.

The Attorney-General was also superb. From the strictly Parliamentary standpoint, he is, perhaps, the best debater on the Liberal side. He does not fire the imagination like Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Churchill, it is true, but, after all, that sort of thing is for the platform rather than the House.

This from Sir Melvill Beachcroft, after twenty-one years' experience of the County Council:—

> This Party business is a curse in local government, and when I see, as I have done during my year of chairmanship, distinguished persons coming from abroad to study our municipal methods, only for them to realise to what a pass party politics have brought our administration, I feel alarmed at the effect partisanship may have upon bodies anxious to copy us. I've felt the mischief of it all a long time now, and have spoken about it. Party considerations before everything else do not appeal to my ideal of what is best for London.

Even the parsons are coming round. Read this from a St. Ethelburga's Church leaflet, by Dr. Cobb: "What we really want is the abolition of the accursed Party system and the rise of an Independent Party, standing for country, freedom and efficiency. Is there no MAN who can create it?"

Don't forget the League Concert at the Holborn Restaurant, to-morrow (Friday) night. For particulars, see the announcement at the head of these notes. And ditto ditto our Portsmouth meeting.

The Lord Mayor of London has given an apt illustration at the Mansion House of the fact that it is possible to steal what nobody owns. His lordship has fined an ex-railway guard for being in unlawful possession of five live pigeons which he admitted having caught in the street. The pigeons are one of the sights of London; and in this respect it would be regrettable if nobody's property were permitted to become anybody's property. London would certainly lose in picturesqueness what it gained in pie.

We are glad to gather that the Government intend to abstain from further excursions in Somaliland, where there is nothing to be gained, much blood and treasure to be lost. Of course we ought never to have withdrawn from Harrar and Abyssinian Somaliland, but, having done so, we ought to have made friends with the Mullah, who possesses some elements of civilisation. Even now, a little show of friendliness might secure his peacefulness, especially if we declined to continue to play cat's-paw to the Negus.

Jim Crow writes: "I bought a million rubber shares at 4s. and sold them at 7s. 3d., and my broker has sent me a fat cheque. Will some kind political economist or Tariff Reformer kindly inform me who lost that money? No one is bearing rubber now. Every man, woman, child, suffragette and monkey s waxing fat over this Tom Tiddley-hi-ti-hi business. But it is a natural law that a gambler may not win without another gambler losing. I hereby offer a testimonial to the disciple or reader who will tell me whom I have mulcted."

Mr. Harold Cox, the ex-M.P. for Preston, must feel honoured in knowing that he will go down to history as a subject, or object, of controversy in perhaps the most momentous debate in Parliament since Charles I. was king. It is seldom that a man who has been a member of Parliament is discussed when he is no longer in it. But Alderman Cox—we call him Alderman because they have co-opted him on the London County Council—was not only an individuality but a personality in the last House of Commons, and it was well worth the while of Lord Hugh Cecil to raise the question of his treatment not only by the Liberals of Preston, but by the Liberal leaders in Parliament. It is true that, elected as a Liberal, Mr. Cox claimed and exercised a large measure of independence in his attitude towards the party. But surely the leaders might have been generous to a man so largely gifted. Indeed, Lord Hugh Cecil was not far wrong in saying that they "drove him out of Parliament." At any rate, none of them made an effort to save him, though Mr. Birrell, the Irish Secretary, now says that if he had been an elector of Preston Mr. Cox would have had his vote. The truth is, party leaders have no use for a man with the courage of some of his own convictions. It is docility they want, not independence; praise or silence, not criticism. The fold is for the sheep, not for the lion; though the goats and the asses are often entertained unawares.

Certain Suffragettes have announced that flirtation is "menial," "debasing," "undignified," "humiliating," and so forth. How do they know?

The Czar of Russia will probably have cause to regret the hospitality he has grudgingly bestowed on Peter Karageorgevitch, for Servian regicides have unpleasant ways of requiting courtesy. Meanwhile it is amusing to note that Peter made a speech, pluming himself on the fact that his first visit to a foreign Court was, in accordance with tradition, to the fraternal rulers of Russia. Considering Peter's frantic and fruitless efforts to be received anywhere during the last seven years, there is a touch of humour about this boast.

The Czar of Bulgaria has been wonderfully successful in making the Young Turks and their puppet eat humble pie. Now that he has proclaimed his independence and reft Turkey of an important province, it is scarcely to be supposed that his welcome was precisely spontaneous and sincere.

There seems to be a strong feeling in Stourport that the Petty Sessional magistrates, with a parson among them, have passed a vindictive sentence on Edwin Mayo, the foreman railway shunter at Hartlebury Junction, who has been prosecuted by the Great Western Railway Company for "having stolen a bag, six cabbages, and four mangolds, value 9d.," the property of the company. Mayo had been in the service of the company for 36 years. There was nothing previously against his character. On the contrary, he bore the reputation of "a steady, persevering, and obliging man." In the strict sense, there was no stealing at all. That is clear to any unprejudiced man who reads the evidence. Actually the offence was one against the railway company's regulations. Mayo found the cabbages and mangolds on the lines at different times, and having collected them he borrowed the bag to take them home to his fowls, whereas his strict duty, of which he said he was not aware, was to take them to the station-master, "who made a return of the salvage to meet claims upon the company by consignees." Without doing the smallest violence to their consciences, the magistrates might have dismissed the case; there was undoubtedly an obligation upon them to deal with it under the Probation Act; yet, "taking into consideration that Mayo would lose his situation they would not send him to prison, but would fine him £2 including costs." The *Kidderminster Shuttle* rightly heads this case "Heavy punishment for a trivial offence." It is indeed; and to our minds Messrs. J. H. Crane, the Rev. D. Vawdrey, R. M. Danks, and R. B. Worth, the Justices concerned, ought to be ashamed of themselves.

Oh, for that Business Government! The Commissioner of Police for the metropolis, in calling attention to the bye-laws of certain counties and boroughs requiring that all hooded vehicles shall be so constructed as to give the driver "a full and uninterrupted view of the traffic in front and abreast of him," says he is advised that in order to comply with this condition, the driver "should have an unobstructed view through *an arc of not less than* 180 *degrees—that is, half a circle.*" Whether the circle is to be one of a diameter of six inches or six feet is not mentioned. According to the official notice, the arc may be half the size of a wedding ring or of the wheel of the van.

Strange as it may seem, there are thousands of people who want to do real good in the world and don't get very much chance of doing it—of doing it, that is to say, with the certainty of direct results. Lady Bountiful would rather succour the visible than the invisible. Charity through ordinary channels is so vague and so vast that she gets little of the satisfaction of being in personal and even intimate touch with it. Individual cases of scenic poverty are different. The ways to real, immediate and direct help are clear. She knows the names and the addresses. She can actually go and see the eyes of the sufferers brighten in her presence, watch the empty larder being filled, receive personal thanks for her goodness. It is all very human; the touch of nature which makes the whole world kin. The thrill of pleasure in personally administering to the relief of pain, of "going about doing good," is not to be experienced by mere response to official appeals at large for charitable subscriptions. Thus it is that poverty theatricalised by the reporter and the camera man makes such an irresistible immediate appeal to public sympathy.

Some time ago, a lad committed suicide in order to draw public attention to the fact that his father could not get work. A few days afterwards more people wanted that man to work for them than he could possibly serve. Some weeks ago, a man and his wife, foodless and in the way of being shelterless, offered *per* a daily newspaper, to sell their youngest born, an ingenious "want" advertisement which presently had its reward in such a deluge of offers of food, cash, and work that the editor had respectfully to request that subscriptions would cease. With the publication of the story of little Edward Brewer, who lived in Cambridge Circus, Hackney Road, and who was burnt to death while standing on the fender to pray up the chimney to Father Christmas to send him food, it is understood that abundant help has flowed in to his mother. We suppose the truth is that human nature is at bottom highly emotional—at any rate, English human nature. The poverty that is poignant, but ordinary, the hunger and despair which are dumb and dry-eyed, we pass by; but when hunger and despair are turned into scenic melodrama, when they have the touch of the theatre, when the pathos becomes an advertisement and the tragedy a photographic snapshot, then our hearts are moved to their deepest deeps, and while the emotion lasts, our practical compassion is boundless.

Pawnbrokers, like the Publicans, are protesting before the Royal Commission on J.P.'s against being excluded from the Bench. They would have to be sworn in like other people; but apparently the Lord Chancellor would place no reliance on their pledges.

It is evident from the latest returns that shooting in the British Navy is by no means as efficient as it should be. In some vessels the record of target practice is very good. The *Warrior*, for instance, is at the top of the list with 320 points; but the *Commonwealth*, the *Hindustan*, and the *King Edward VII.* are at the bottom with only 86, 62 and 44 respectively. The First Lord of the Admiralty does not mind us drawing his special attention to the matter, we hope, especially as our only object is to point out that when our fleet meets an enemy's ships in war and receives the order to fire, it is of considerable advantage to be able to hit them.

A correspondent suggests that all candidates for Parliament, whether in Lords or Commons, should be subjected to an examination test equal to Oxford local junior examinations: thus, spelling, history of British Constitution, elementary logic and political economy, French or German, elementary law, and laws of harmony. Evidently this ingenious person wants to keep a lot of us out. The idea of expecting the average Liberal or Tory candidate to qualify in harmony and elementary logic, for instance! Even a Cabinet Minister could not do it.

The result of the Rosebery resolutions is that a noble army of peers, seventeen strong, have registered votes recording that a lord ought to legislate for the people on the ground that at the time of his birth his father nominated him to do so. Yet, at a guess, we should say that if the House is constituted on an elective principle, not one of them will be found in it.

We don't quite know how the married men will take it, but both Lady Troubridge and Lady McLaren agree that women should flirt with their husbands as a means of reviving the fires which often burn so low after a few years of matrimony. The notion is certainly ingenious, and might, with practice, become interesting. As a preliminary canter, so to speak, wives left at home to play the piano should try it on some husbands who prefer to go out and play billiards.

A Mr. David Rose, writing from his elysium, the Villa Cote d'Azur, Nice, complains that we British have far too many holidays. "Any excuse seems to be good enough to waste time and money for a so-called holiday," says he, "and the evil habits into which young people fall during these idle days have been the ruin of many." It is admitted that our continental neighbours work longer hours than we do, and get along very happily with fewer holidays; but, after all, it is just as well for us to see things in the right way, which is to work to live and not live to work. The very rich and the very idle, of course, have another point of view. It is that by the original design of the Creator, man was not intended to work at all. They may be right, but, in that case, the original design has gone wrong.

So wretched was the condition of a horse driven by a Notting Hill greengrocer's carman the other day—emaciated, lame, and with old wounds on the back under the harness—that people in the street cried "Shame!" on its driver. "That is rather a novelty," said Mr. Paul Taylor, the Marylebone magistrate, when he was told of this on the man being charged with cruelty. Perhaps it is: but the horse was old, weak, and could hardly move, and there are some things which Englishmen, who, in the mass, probably are the most humane people in the world in their attitude towards dumb animals, cannot stand without protest, and the suffering of this horse was apparently one of them. The owner was fined £5 and the carman £3, with the alternative of a month's hard labour in each case, so that the price of their inhumanity will probably operate as a warning not only to themselves, but to others.

There are some people who—well, referring to our comment on the advertisement of a Birmingham vicar, "St. Jude, Hill Street, Fourth Sunday in Lent ("Refreshment Sunday"), that it "must be comforting to the congregation to be allowed one Sunday in Lent on which to take refreshment for the body as well as for the soul; man cannot live by fish alone," two gentlemen and one lady solemnly lecture us on our abyssmal ignorance of "Church custom and doctrine." One says that Refreshment Sunday is so-called "because members who observe some sort of fast are supposed to assimilate an extra supply of nutritious food on that day in view of the coming Passion and Holy Week," while another says it "has nothing to do with the refreshment of the body but only with the refreshment of the soul." We are also instructed that "all the Sundays in Lent are feasts, not fasts." After all, it takes all sorts of people to make a world.

We cannot help feeling a bit of sympathy for the man who escaped three times from Devil's Island, and endeavoured since 1904 to lead an honest life. After all his vicissitudes, it does seem rather hard that he should be brought up at Bow Street for extradition. We think we should have risked letting him off.

The trouble in Liberia should afford an opportunity for considering whether it is not high time to put down a nest of criminal savages, who indulge in murderous orgies and persecute any white men who have the misfortune to live among them.

As we foresaw, troubles are beginning in Abyssinia. From what we know of the country, they are likely to last a long time, perhaps even until European intervention is successfully accomplished. Meanwhile, it is a good sign that the Empress Taitu's ambitions are being curbed. That despotic old savage has been too long an obstacle to progress and an enemy to Europeans. The only European she ever admired was the late Queen Victoria—which is something to her credit.

Some people have strange ideas of irreverence. One of our readers actually takes us to task for our modern "Pilgrim's Progress" because "there must be many who keep a reverent memory of what they learnt in youth." As the original "Pilgrim's Progress" was only a piece of fiction by an eccentric tinker, we do not see why it should be protected against parody any more than the "Arabian Nights" or "Gulliver's Travels."

What do the Dalzielite Liberals say to Mr. Haldane's declaration that the Resolutions are "merely a stepping stone to *something bigger*—the reform of the second chamber"?

Mme. Réjane has announced to all and sundry that she does not consider the Countess Tarnovska beautiful. At first sight, this seems an impertinence, but, after all, plain people are entitled to opinions about beauty as about everything else. But when an actress goes on to pronounce on the "elegance" of a lady, we smile. Meanwhile, we should like to hear the Countess's commentary on the appearance of Mme. Réjane.

The Bishop of Ripon has been telling a significant anecdote. A youth, about to be confirmed, was told that, "having taken the name of Christ, he must not tell a lie." Thereupon he replied "that he would not be confirmed, for in business he must tell lies." We are curious to know what moral his Lordship attaches to this. Would he have advised the youth to give up business? And what about the youth's baptismal vows?

Live and learn. At a meeting of the Beeston branch of the Women's Total Abstinence Society, "Mrs. Osborn, of London," informed her audience she was "glad to know that there was a Babies' League in connection with the society, and already 20 babies were enrolled. We must begin with the young children." Unless our recollection is wrong, this is the usual thing to do. But surely when babies are driven to drink they invariably select a teetotal beverage.

We have occasionally commented upon Jersey law. We do not know whether there is any sort of Corrupt Practices Act in the island—apparently not; for we read in the native *Evening Post* the account of a recent "Election for Jurat," and this is what is said about one of the districts—St. Ouen—"The folk took the election in earnest, and turned out in large numbers at the polling booth." So far, so good. But now listen to this: "A large marquee was erected outside the Farmers' Arms, and here Mr. Pinel's chief supporters entertained those of the electors who were favourable to his cause." And what do you think was the result? Here it is: Pinel, 290—Heath, 16. The report adds the laconic remark, "One paper spoilt." We should have expected more. We suggest that our old Parliamentary friends, Messrs. Nicholls and Branch, should qualify for election and champion the cause of political righteousness in this benighted spot.

We often derive amusement from the vaunted superiority of ignorant persons. Quite a number of our correspondents, for instance, have wanted us to give Mr. Marshall Hall a "biscuit" for alluding to "a laughing jackass on the top of a tree." They evidently imagine that all jackasses possess four legs. Unless, indeed, they were trying to pull ours.

Another correspondent wants a "biscuit" awarded for a parson who objected to brides appearing in church with uncovered heads. But *the* biscuit, if any, belongs to St. Paul.

In our last issue we thanked those of our readers who were kind enough to send us Birthday greetings. The other day we were looking over the letters and telegrams, and we were struck by the following quotation from James R. Lowell, which a too generous friend applied to us:

> Wherever any such hath lived and died,
> There hath been something for true freedom wrought;
> Some bulwark levelled on the evil side.

Without venturing to take such a tribute to ourselves in any personal sense, we venture to hope that some day it may be true of us, in at least our journalistic capacity.

Here is a delicious example of the way in which the truckling of the Home Government to Political Nonconformity bears fruit. Sir Robert Perks—*why* was he ever knighted?—having given up Parliament, is out in America on business. But, of course, he must address a few Methodist gatherings, and this is what he said at one of them about the forthcoming Jeffries—Johnson fight: "I ask you what are American Methodists doing *to allow this thing to take place?*" What, indeed, are Methodists of the Perks type doing to allow any of us to breathe? The arrant old hypocrite!

Sir Robert Perks, by the way, considers a boxing-match "a remarkable instance of brutality and degradation," "a disgusting exhibition," "a horrible spectacle," "the criminal and brutal debauchery of human beings." How does he know all that? Why do Kill-joys persist in pronouncing upon matters they have never investigated? Probably Sir Robert would be a better sportsman if he had had his nose punched once or twice when he was a boy.

The Primitive Methodist Centenary Church of Southorpe, near Bournemouth, recently advertised their "Second Annual Married Men's Effort." That comes of being centenarian, we suppose.

Several British musicians have written us complaining that they should have to send their applications in connection with the forthcoming Empire pageant to a foreigner—especially after the recent statement by Dr. Strauss about an All-British orchestra. One of them asks, "What do the hundred British performers who are giving their services in the Pageant think of this?" We would rather not say.

Here is an illustration of the way in which practical politics sometimes clash with moral aims. A licensed victualler was recently charged with putting too much water in the beer. "So much the better for the people who drink it," said the magistrate. "But," came the reply from the Excise Officer, "we regard it from the revenue point of view." Mr. Lloyd George in his Budget tries to combine the two—but it won't work.

We are delighted to gather that five years' rest has had the effect of restoring Evan Roberts's sanity, and that he now, apparently, contemplates giving up for good his old revivalist nonsense. There is no maniac so dangerous as a religious one—and poor Evan was *very* bad.

The Caledonian Railway Company has awarded a poor woman the princely sum of £5 for stopping an express train when a tree had fallen across the line. Evidently the canny directors do not attach much importance to human life, but surely their express trains are worth more bawbees.

We read that the name of the foreman of a coroner's jury at Stepney was Good, whilst the first witness called was a Mrs. Badd. But we remain indifferent.

If we are to believe the *Diario Noticias*, a number of British capitalists are endeavouring to acquire the property of the German Sanatorium at Madeira for £250,000, in order to establish a Casino to compete with that at Monte Carlo. We are wondering whether it is Free Trade or Mr. Lloyd George who is driving this capital abroad.

The Vicar and Churchwardens of St. John's, Upper Holloway, think we did them an injustice in our issue of March 26th. It appears that we left out of the subscriptions for the sick and poor, certain special collections made on Christmas Day. But our only object was to show the discrepancy in normal times between the subscriptions for Church purposes and those for the relief of the sick and poor. *Everybody* gives something at Christmas.

Has it ever occurred to any one that Knightsbridge Barracks, covering a wide area of enormously valuable land, are a monstrous extravagance? The soldiers could be accommodated quite as usefully in some cheap quarter, and the State might derive a fat revenue by erecting flats on the present site. Hey for that business War Office!

THE WEEK'S "CHESTNUT":—

He was a countryman and had just returned from serving on a jury at the Assizes, where he had stood out for a conviction against the views of the other eleven, with the result that the jury had been discharged. Asked by his neighbours the reason for his obstinacy, in view of the evidence and the judge's summing up, he replied: "I didn't take no notice of any of them there things; I simply looked at the chap in the dock and said to myself, 'If you ain't done nothing wrong, what are you there for?'"

THE JOHN BULL LEAGUE HAS ITS EYE ON—

THOSE FOREIGN "BRITISH" CONSULS.

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

NOTICE.—No more biscuits for births, deaths, or marriages, which creep into the wrong column. Much too gruesome to be funny!
OLD WOMEN.—Biscuits are uncompromisingly denied to papers alluding to "old women of both sexes." There are so many of them.
WEDDINGS.—No biscuits for bridegrooms wearing picture hats and crepe de chine. Why shouldn't they?

For describing "a stalwart young man . . . with light blue eyes, lively and deep, set OVER *an intelligent forehead,"*

THE MORNING LEADER
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating (according to "The Daily Mail" and "M.A.P.), "All you have to do, if you want to place England in the forefront, is to PUT YOUR HANDS IN YOUR POCKETS AND WORK,"

SIR HIRAM MAXIM
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For announcing a sermon as follows: "'Is there a Hell?' All are welcome,"

A NONCONFORMIST PARSON AT KENSAL RISE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "Her Majesty will probably be IN *the Mediterranean from the beginning of April until just after Whitsuntide,"*

THE IRISH TIMES
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For stating that, of "*NINETEEN *experienced Scotch farmers," "*HALF *took advantage of the recent offer of the Ontario Government,"*

THE EVENING NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For stating that "*LORD DERBY WAS AN ABSENTEE *from the races," and, in the same issue, that "the Prince of Wales with* LORD DERBY ARRIVED *in a stately cavalcade,"*

THE DAILY MIRROR
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising: "Farm labourer wanted; good all-round man; good milker, with WIFE TO MILK *during summer preferred,"*

B. JACOB (Chancellor's Farm, Wanstrow, Shepton Mallet)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For giving HOUSEMAID'S KNEE *as the reason why a bullock had to be shot,*

A PROSECUTOR AT THE GUILDHALL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "Stanley, the capital, was the birthplace of Miss Ellaline Terriss. But sheep farming is the principal occupation of the Falkland Islanders,"

THE DAILY CHRONICLE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating to a "Star" reporter: "There HAVE BEEN WORSE *'Varsity crews on the river, but* NEVER SO MUCH BELOW THE AVERAGE *as this year's,"*

"A WELL-KNOWN QUIDNUNC OF THE TOW-PATH"
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in a leading article: "On the whole, we are bound to think that Mr. Patten WOULD HAVE SPOKEN *more wisely about this episode if he had* NOT SPOKEN AT ALL,"

THE DAILY EXPRESS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that the Municipal Reformers have "recorded a marvellous reduction in infantile MORALITY,"

THE COWKEEPER AND DAIRYMAN'S JOURNAL'S
Leaflet (reprinted by Straker & Sons)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that, "in memory of a deceased master, a WIDOW *is to be placed in the chapel of Denstone College,"*

THE DERBY DAILY EXPRESS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS AND TELEGRAMS.

To His Majesty King Menelik, Lion of Judah (The Only), Abyssinia, Africa.

Dear Menelik,—Are you dead or are you not? Half the London papers say you are and the other half say you aren't. Please send me the address at which this reaches you with complaints of treatment, if any, and then I shall know which to believe. John Bull.

To the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, House of Commons.

Dear Arthur,—Excuse me for taking special note of the fact of your intention to move in the House of Commons that it is inexpedient in the public interest for the salary of the President of the Local Government Board to be on a lower scale than that of the President of the Board of Trade. You don't really mean to say that you've promised John's £5,000 per annum to another gentleman already, do you? Artful Arthur! John Bull.

To F. E. Smith, Esq., K.C., M.P., House of Commons.

Dear "F. E.,"—Hearty congratulations on return to your best "two-year-old" form. Now let me give you a word of friendly advice. Don't run quite so many races. You are too good a horse to be "brought out" every day. Besides, with Rufus out of the way, you'll be having more briefs than ever—and you'll be wanted on the platform. Remember, many a prospective Derby winner has broken down. John Bull.

To Lord Leigh, Chairman of County Magistrates, Coventry.

Dear Lord,—I am glad that you and the other Coventry magistrates sitting with you the other day took the view they did in the case of Mr. Lathbury, the landlord of a Bedworth hostelry. The charge against him was that of permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises; but it was proved that when he demanded that the inspector of police should allow the arrested man to be examined by a doctor, and even offered to pay the fee, the inspector refused permission. Naturally, this left the police evidence entirely unsupported, while on the other side three witnesses emphatically declared that the man was sober. The Bench dismissed the case, and your lordship added an observation which was in effect a remonstrance, that "it was a pity the landlord was not allowed to call a doctor."

I am not aware whether your lordship has noticed a tendency on the part of the police to discourage independent medical examination in cases of drunkenness. Their desire appears to be to constitute themselves the sole judges in the matter. Apart from the question that a man may be sober, but ill, they should be "not only ready, but willing; not only willing, but eager," to call in a medical man when payment of the fee is tendered, because if he agrees with them their case is strengthened, and if he disagrees with them they are at once relieved of the obligation of prosecution. Over and over again the police have mistaken illness for insobriety, and where a man's livelihood is endangered, as in this instance, by police testimony, there should be a moral obligation upon them to prove drunkenness, instead of putting it upon the person charged to prove sobriety. As I gather that your lordship sees this as clearly as I do, I will not say more than that I trust the magistrates under your chairmanship will always act with the extremest caution when the police refuse to permit medical examination in circumstances such as those with which they have been made acquainted. John Bull.

To the Earl of Plymouth, Royal Albert Hall, London.

My Dear Plym,—I notice that you and "the Council of the Festival of Empire and Pageant of London" announce a "Grand Orchestral Concert" in the Albert Hall by the "Festival of Empire Orchestra of 100 Performers," under the direction of Dr. Frederick Cowen. On this great and auspicious occasion it appears that an overture by Dr. Elgar will be performed, the rest of the programme being contributed, according to the advertisements, by Messrs. Wilhelmj, Rossini, Strauss, Weber, Ernst, Wagner, Renard, and Dressel. I am exceedingly sorry to trouble you on such a matter, my dear Plym, but will you have the goodness to inform me in the circumstances which Empire this concert is supposed to celebrate? There appears to be considerable misunderstanding on the subject. Also may I ask whether you and the council have invited the Kaiser to occupy the Royal Box? John Bull.

To P.C. Daniels, Coroner's Officer, and Sergeant Robinson, Bethnal Green.

Dear Policemen,—Elsewhere I have had a few words to say as to the death of little Edward Brewer, the starving Hackney Road child, who was burned to death while standing on the fender in order to pray up the chimney to Father Christmas to send down some food. The mother had previously applied to the Guardians for parish relief, but it was refused to her because she would not go into the workhouse. Deserted by her husband eighteen months ago, and left with three children, she struggled on in her one room as well as she could. Withal, it is clear that on many days she and her children hungered, and when you went into the room you found no trace of food. But why repeat a story with which you already are familiar? Candidly, officers, it is merely my excuse for commending the quick and kindly thought which prompted you to buy a loaf for them, and make them a shilling the richer. You seem to have begun a competition in official charity. Dr. Wynn Westcott, the coroner, has bought the woman a fireguard, for she has not had the money to pay for one, and Inspector Ross, in his own words, has "undertaken to get some very necessary clothes for the children and try and put things ship-shape." If the inspector and yourselves are fair samples of the Bethnal Green police, they must be a thoroughly good set of fellows all round, and I take off my hat to them and to you. John Bull.

To the Rev. W. Blackmore, late Vicar of St. Austell, Cornwall.

Rev. Sir,—It will not surprise you in the least, I suppose, that the Bishop has sequestered your living, though your sudden departure from St. Austell has certainly astonished your parishioners. In the parish magazine for March you say not a word in your pastoral about leaving, and if I am to believe what I find in the local paper, the first intimation or hint of your decision was received by the churchwardens a few weeks ago, when you wrote to them that you were in a convalescent home in Plymouth, suffering from nervous breakdown, and that you had sent in your resignation to the Bishop. It is all very mysterious. If your illness was the only factor in the case, I cannot doubt that arrangements could and would have been made for assistance during the period of your necessary absence. Why didn't you take the churchwardens and parishioners into your confidence? Why vanish without a public word, and explain from a distance the fact that your resignation was through a nervous breakdown, which nobody even suspected? Your bewildering action and the Bishop's acceptance of your resignation have set the hundred tongues of rumour busily wagging. If I can explain anything further on your behalf, pray command my services. John Bull.

To the Returning Officer, North Lonsdale.

Sir,—It is quite clear that you can't count, and I want to know why you were paid heavy fees. I also wonder how many other elections have been miscounted. You ought to be heavily fined. I always felt sure that my own majority was a thousand more. John Bull.

To the Right Hon. Winston Churchill, M.P., House of Commons.

Dear Mr. Churchill,—I was deeply touched by your reference to my League, in the course of your recent speech in the House of Commons. But how did you find out that Lord Rosebery, Lord Hugh Cecil, the Editor of the *Spectator*, and Mr. Harold Cox were members? What a nose you have for news! However, in recognition of your distinguished service—to the League—I shall have much pleasure in making you an Honorary Member. John Bull.

Arthur Sherwell, Esq., M.P., House of Commons.

Sorry Banbury talked out your One-day Election and Abolition Plural Voting Bill. Ridiculous way getting rid of good measure. Probably you now agree with me, Commons want reforming as well as Lords. Bull.

Minister of Marine, Constantinople.

Good idea of yours to send 100 Turkish naval officers for course of training in England. When they return will be improved so much you'll hardly know 'em. But tell them to be careful of German cranes. Bull.

Loreburn, Lord High Chancellor, London.

Have you noticed latest statistics that in 1908 seventy-six accused people kept in prison three months and over before trial were acquitted? Can't you take steps to put circuit system on more rational basis? Bull.

THE "ZOO" SCANDAL.

After thanking us for our article on the building transactions of this Society, a correspondent goes on to say:—

When Dr. Chalmers Mitchell undertook the Secretaryship of the Society in 1903, it was generally expected that an era of reform had set in. In some respects this was so. During the last seven years, the gardens have been considerably improved. The site has been redrained, many old houses and shelters pulled down, and new ones erected in their place. The animals' quarters have been enlarged, and to-day the gardens are more attractive than ever they were.

But much more might be done. The London Zoological Society is virtually a private institution. It receives no state or public grant, and is solely dependent upon the subscriptions of its Fellows and the admission fees of the public. Frequently it complains that the public do not come to the gardens, but it will not see that it does not properly cater for them.

At one time, the gardens boasted of possessing the finest houses and largest collection of animals in the world. They have long been surpassed by the Continental gardens, particularly those of Germany. Why? Because it refuses to cater for the masses. Last year 796,744 persons visited the gardens, while the figures for 1908 were 861,586, and for 1907, 863,953—a gradual decrease.

Now, if the institution is to be a financial success, it must cater for the masses. It could very easily do this by reducing the cost of admission, re-organising the Sunday tickets, and improving the catering. At present, we have only one sixpenny day, namely, Monday, admitted to be the worst day for the people. There should be, at least, four sixpenny days a week.

Then, with regard to Sunday, this is looked upon as a Fellows' Day, and only those possessing Fellows' tickets can pass the turnstiles. Last year the subscriptions from Fellows amounted to £8,862, while the gate receipts totalled £18,725 8s. 3d. Clearly, then, it is to the public that the Society must look for revenue. To many, Sunday is the only day they have for visiting institutions of this character, and if the London Zoological Society would re-organise the Sunday tickets it would undoubtedly prove a large source of revenue.

To become a Fellow one has, of course, to be proposed and seconded, and then, on payment of £8 5s. (£5 entrance fee and £3 3s. subscription) one secures three guineas' worth of tickets and is entitled to place "F.Z.S.," after his name. This is all very well, though "F.Z.S." has really little value zoologically, seeing that no examination or qualifications are demanded of the applicant. But here is the point: There is no reason at all why the Society could not have members, or associate members—call them what you will—paying 5s., 10s. 6d., or £1 1s. per annum, and for this sum receive that amount in tickets, available on Sundays. Where the Society would receive one subscription of £8 3s. they would secure a score at £1 1s., or hundreds at 5s. Furthermore, such a course need not materially interfere with the privileges of Fellows, who would still be entitled to place "F.Z.S." after their names and receive the Society's technical publications.

Then the catering needs improvement. Anyone who visits the gardens will confirm this. It seems a pity that the Society does not wake up to the need of placing some business man at the head of affairs who would cater for the public, for it is their sixpences and shillings that keep the place going. After all, there are few more interesting places for a man and his family to visit than an up-to-date and attractive zoological gardens. The number of living creatures at Regent's Park now total 3,186, one of the largest and most representative in existence, but the general public are certainly not encouraged, as they should be, to come to see them.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

"JOHN BULL'S" GREETINGS.

April 3rd.—Lord Loreburn.

Long may Lord Loreburn live,
To burn with legal lore,
And from the spacious Woolsack give
Much wisdom from his store.

April 4th.—Earl Winterton.

Hail! youthful Earl, dull Horsham's pride,
Long may you live to irritate
With gibes and jokes and pricking prate
The speakers on the other side.

April 7th.—The Archbishop of Canterbury.

Long may Your Grace your office fill,
And gather in the sheep who've strayed;
And, likewise, may you long fulfil
Your duties on the *Board of Trade*.

"THE R.S.P.C.A."

THE SECRETARY REPLIES TO MESSRS. WOOD'S ALLEGATIONS.

It will be remembered that in a recent issue we published a letter from Messrs. Richard Wood, Ltd., of Wimbledon. A man in their employ was stated to have taken out a horse and van at 11 a.m. on February 5th, the next they heard of him being at 4.30 p.m., when he wired from prison that he had been fined 40s. or a month for working the horse, it having suddenly gone lame. Their name being on the van, they think they should have been told of the prosecution in order that they might have defended the man, instead of which it was rushed through—with the result that, before they could pay the fine, the driver was taken in the prison van with several convicted felons to Wandsworth Gaol, where he was stripped of his clothes.

In reply to these statements, the Secretary of the Society says that when their inspector saw the animal the driver was trotting it, despite the fact that it was suffering from a ringbone and was shockingly lame. This was pointed out to the man, but he denied knowledge of the lameness, although it would have been impossible for a driver like the accused (ten years' experience) to be ignorant of it. He was then asked the reason for its rubber-shod feet, and he replied "to make him go better"—thereby indirectly confessing his knowledge of the animal's infirmity. Moreover, when stopped the driver was not going home, as he should have been even if the extreme lameness had been caused on the journey, but was about to fetch another load. An ambulance was necessary to convey the horse to the Court and subsequently home. Immediately the driver was stopped (at about 11.30) he was allowed to go and telephone to his employers, and the constable effecting the arrest also apprised them by telephone, since which they have had to admit to the police that they received notification of the man's apprehension within thirty minutes of the event. So that the failure of Messrs. Wood's representative to appear early was neither the Society's nor the police's fault.

We may say that Messrs. Wood emphatically deny that they ever admitted that they received notification of the arrest within thirty minutes of its being effected. The only time they had seen the police in reference to the matter was when they called that evening and paid the fine, though two constables went to the driver's house and endeavoured to get him to sign some statement, which he refused to do.

YOU NEVER CAN TELL.

With verve and vim and vigour
I opened the campaign,
And laboured like a nigger,
With all my might and main.
Huge, horny hands in hundreds
I resolutely wrung,
And doting mothers' hearts rejoiced
When eulogistic views I voiced
Pertaining to their young.

I spoke at crowded meetings,
And plaudits rent the air.
Enthusiastic greetings
O'erwhelmed me everywhere.
Prophetically boastful
Became the party Press.
"A triumph all along the line!"
There certainly was many a sign
That seemed to spell success.

Although the fight created
Excitement so intense,
The issue I awaited
With quiet confidence;
But when I heard: "McSpouter,
Four seven seven three,"
I ruefully remembered then
What Robbie wrote of mice and men.
McSpouter wasn't Me!

F. J. Whitmarsh.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

See page iii. of Cover.

THE WAY OF THE ARMY.

A few days ago, Major Adam, the Member for Woolwich, made a speech in the House of Commons, from which we take the following :—

No public department is more prolific in regrettable incidents than the War Department; and for every incident reported in the newspapers there are twenty or thirty which are never published. The confidential report system which is made upon every officer is a relic of barbarism. There are at present prejudicial reports filed in the War Office against officers who are absolutely ignorant of their existence.

Major Adam, we may remark in passing, is one of the officers who some time ago was compulsorily retired from the 5th Lancers, and upon his making it known pretty plainly that he was not going to "take it lying down," he was given an appointment at the War Office, from which he retired when he decided to stand for Woolwich. The last words of the paragraph we have quoted from Major Adam's speech point to a very grave state of things. As most of our readers know, a confidential report is made upon each officer by his commanding officer every year, but according to the King's Regulations, if there is anything prejudicial to the officer in the report it must be shown to him. Now Major Adam, who knows what he is talking about, says that this regulation is constantly violated, and that scores of these reports are made which reflect upon the officers concerned, but which they are not allowed to see.

It requires great courage on the part of a man in the position of Major Adam to make a statement of this kind in the House of Commons. By the way, we have not been able to find it reported in any paper but *The Times*. It requires great courage for this reason. Suppose Major Adam is a person of moderate means, entitled to retired pay, let us say to £200 or £300 a year. This retired pay may—we are not directing this particular remark to Major Adam, it is a general remark—mean all the difference to an officer between comfort and the other thing. Major Adam goes back to Woolwich next month and is defeated. He is then informed by the Army Council that his retired pay is stopped. We may be told that such a thing is impossible. The retired pay of any officer could not be stopped unless he had been proved after due enquiry to be guilty of some offence that properly deprived him of his pension, but as a matter of fact it is not necessary that any such offence should have been committed. The Army Council has absolute authority. It can stop retired pay without giving any reason whatever for doing so, and if the Council is annoyed at the plain speech of Major Adam, it is absolutely within its right to punish him for venturing to speak the truth to the country through the House of Commons by stopping his pay.

A GROSS OUTRAGE.

The wife of a working man living at Sydenham has made a complaint to us to which we direct the attention of those concerned. She tells us that her husband, who is a labourer, has found it difficult, indeed impossible, to get steady work of late, and as a consequence his rates have fallen into arrears. On the morning of the day before Good Friday she was in bed with her children when the bedroom door was suddenly opened, and a constable called out, "Now, Jerry, you have to come and do the rates." The time was about five o'clock. The husband was not in the room, but in another, to which the constable, who had entered the wife's bedroom, went, accompanied by a second constable. There he arrested the man and took him to jail.

It is a curious law that requires the arrest of workmen for the non-payment of rates, which they have been unable to pay because, with the best will in the world, they have been unable to earn money enough to keep their families and themselves in food and lodging. But the law is there, and we say nothing further about it at the moment. We do, however, protest in the strongest way against what we are told is a common practice, as described above, of constables entering the homes of men and going to their bedrooms for the purpose of arresting them. In the present case the front door was locked, and the only way in which the constables could have got in was by a skeleton key. Since when have constables been authorised to use skeleton keys for the purpose of effecting entrance into houses?

OUR FORTHCOMING SHARE ISSUE.

200,000 Half-Crown Shares to be Issued, Entitled to a Preferential Dividend of Six Per Cent., and Possessing the Right of Exchange, at the Option of the Holders, Into Ordinary Shares.

GREAT DEMAND AMONGST OUR READERS ALREADY FOR THE SHARES.

As announced in recent issues, we are about to adopt the principle, which has proved so successful with other journals, of spreading a large proprietary interest in our paper amongst its readers, in the shape of popular half-crown fully-paid Bearer shares. In order to assure the holders a regular and substantial dividend, we have decided to split our unissued 25,000 One Pound Convertible Preference shares (being the balance of an authorised issue of 50,000) into half-crown shares, and as each certificate is exchangeable, at the option of the holder, into Ordinary shares, and having regard to the large and increasing profits of the journal—as will be seen from the accounts about to be published—such certificates should soon be worth £1 each.

We shall not formally offer the shares for subscription until the accounts down to December 31st last are issued, when a meeting of the present shareholders will be held, and the position and prospects of the journal fully explained. At the same time some interesting announcements will be made as to further contemplated developments of our undertaking.

Meanwhile, every post brings us requests to reserve shares—all of which are being duly collated, and will receive attention in due course. We shall do our best to allot the issue *pro rata* amongst all applicants, but, pending the issue of the prospectus, we cannot receive any money in the way of deposits or otherwise, and can do no more than make a list of those desirous of subscribing when the time comes. Nor can we at this stage enter into correspondence with individual readers in regard to the matter.

Our brokers inform us that there have been active enquiries during the past week in connection with the £25,000 of Preference shares already issued, but there is no reason why any of our readers should purchase at a premium, at any rate until they have had the opportunity of obtaining some of the new shares at par.

We believe that notwithstanding the exceptional expenditure involved in the earlier period of the journal's career, the accounts about to be issued will show a return of ten per cent. upon the ordinary shares, whilst the accounts for the first quarter of the present year show a much larger yield—more than double, in fact, that of the corresponding period of last year.

In the meantime, warrants for Preference Share Dividend for the six months ending 31st March have been posted.

"SET ABOUT IT!"

The great mistake a fellow makes
  If there is work to do,
Is when he sits and wonders how
  To pull the contract through.
There's oft a stiff task comes to one,
  Of course, we do not doubt it;
But why sit down and stare at work?
  Set about it!

That is the only way for you
  To up and win the fight;
A bit of ready elbow-grease
  Is worth a strong man's might!
What you require is energy,
  You cannot do without it;
Make up your mind to do your best—
  Set about it!

The work that is in front of you
  May frighten you a bit;
But all the worry in the world
  Won't make an end of it.
What you must do is—be a man,
  Go at the job and rout it;
You're bound to be top dog if you
  Set about it!

Ricardo.

By its QUALITY

Stephens' Ink

has for 78 years
held the home market.
and has *FORCED*
its way through
every tariff abroad.

RESOLUTELY
REFUSE
SUBSTITUTES.

"LADY M. SOMERSET."

We have received a visit from "Lady Mercia Somerset" in relation to the article that appeared in our issue of March 26th under this title. The lady says it was her brother who incurred the debt in question. She does not traverse our other statements.

Mr. C. A. Smallbone, of Shortlands, Kent, writes:—

You are doing good service in exposing the above.

The lady, her brother (Lionel), two little girls, and another man, supposed to be her groom—in reality Maurice Rogers, a medical student, her husband—took a house in Shortlands in the spring of 1902, paying a quarter's rent in advance. They very quickly obtained credit from various tradespeople here to the extent of over £100. I was the first to take action, and was non-suited against the lady by Judge Emden at Bromley County Court, who gave judgment against the husband. Just after this the whole gang disappeared, and I found them at Rayleigh, Essex, where they were up to the same game; but before I had time to take action they again disappeared. They next turned up at Hastings, and in April, 1905, at Hastings County Court, I obtained a committal order against Rogers.

I next heard of them in October, 1905, through a report of an assault case in the *Daily Mail*, at Bourne End, near Maidenhead.

In December, 1906, the lady and her brother were at a riding school at Bayswater (see illustrations from *Daily Mirror*), but I could not find that the husband was there. From that time I lost sight of them entirely.

There is no doubt that Irene Rogers, alias Mercia Somerset, alias Mercia Calham, known to the tradesmen of Rayleigh as an actress of the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, is the wife of Maurice Rogers.

Messrs. Charles W. French and Sons, Jobmasters, of 65, Camden Road, Camden Town, N.W., write:—

We did some repairs to this lady's trap, and rendered the account to her groom when he called for the trap, and he asked our man to go with him to the stables, and Lady M. Somerset would write him out a cheque for it; but Lady M. Somerset would not write the cheque, but immediately went to her solicitor's address, and had the enclosed letter sent by express post the same day.

A solicitor's clerk writes:—

I am a solicitor's managing clerk, and have fought them pretty hard, and my papers contain their history fairly correctly. The husband acts as groom, whilst a man named Calham takes the part (in the same house!) of husband, and is sometimes passed off as her brother. This complication has been carried so far, I believe, that at Maidenhead, Mrs. Rogers (to give her her proper name) was fined for keeping a man servant (her husband!) without a licence.

Enquiries at Bourne End, Maidenhead, Shortlands, Kent, Reigate (when in August, 1909, she was Miss Georgine Byron, a dealer in horses. See *Daily Mirror*, August 20th, 1909, picture at bottom of page 9), will help you. Stick to them and save the tradespeople!

A lady writes:—

I think a vote of thanks should be given you for having shown up such an utter fraud as Lady M. Somerset. At the same time I think Mr. Arthur Newton does not shine conspicuously in the matter as she hedges behind him. I write from bitter and personal experience. Some four years ago this lady told me a very pitiful tale of brokers in possession at Pembridge Place, and my husband felt *so* sorry for her, he, as managing director of a firm, bought a horse for £25 from her. When the groom was sent to fetch the horse (the lady had asked for the money in £5 notes, and these had been sent to her by special messenger) it had suddenly gone lame. Repeated efforts were of no avail. We then became suspicious, sued her, got judgment. She then put forth the plea the horses were her brother's. My husband had to lose the £25, plus all the law costs, and was severely reprimanded by his Board.

Last year, finding ourselves in difficulties, I wrote her under cover to Mr. Newton, that unless she could pay the money, I must take other measures to obtain it, as I did not find people help us so readily. This woman had the impertinence to send me a postcard to say if I sent any more such communications she would acquaint Scotland Yard. My husband was last week made a bankrupt, and I am almost penniless, but for the charity of friends, yet the £25 lent this so-called Lady Somerset would be a god-send to us now. She is a bane on society, and it is high time she was shown up, and I really thank you for so doing, as it may save others.

We have received several other letters from tradesmen to the same effect.

OUR FIFTY GUINEA PRIZE.

FOR THE BEST SUGGESTION FOR A NEW POSTER.

We have received upwards of two thousand designs and suggestions for our new mammoth Poster, all of which are being carefully checked and considered, and the result will be announced as early as possible.

HUMAN DOCUMENTS.—LXXXIV.

The following appeal is deserving of support and if any of our readers would care to help the writer—a very deserving woman—we shall be happy to forward any sums they may like to entrust to us for her:—

I am writing to ask you if you will kindly consider this case, and put a few lines in your paper if you think it would be any good, as I am very much in need of a little help. My husband, William Mars, is a ship's steward, but I have not seen him since March, four years ago; he came home then for three weeks, leaving me in trouble with a little girl that is now 3½ years old this June. The eldest girl was 6 years old last October. I had to get over my confinement the best way I could. I worked almost until the last week, then my old mother worked for me and my two children. I have never asked any help from anyone before, but my mother has been a widow this last eight years, and it is very hard for her as well. She minds the children. I have had to let some rent run lately, and my mother has had to let her club run out after being in it for many years. All my home I had I have had to sell from time to time, and best part of my mother's as well. The last we heard from Mr. Mars was last August twelvemonth, when he sent 15s.; he was then on s.s. *Finland*, of the Red Star Line running from New York to Antwerp. The New York police have tried to find him, as you will see by the letters I have sent you. I do not want my little ones to be sent away, only a little help to get me over my difficulties.

With reference to Human Document LXXXI., the writer informs us that he has succeeded in obtaining employment through the publication given to his case by John Bull, and he also expects to get evening work at Forest Hill. We are glad to have been the means of helping a very worthy man.

With reference to Human Document LXXXII., we have received the following from readers, which have been forwarded to the man in question:—J. S., 21s.; B. P., 2s. 6d.; Sympathiser, 2s. 6d.; Teddy Bear, 2s. 6d.; Vinolia, 1s. 6d.; T. G. J., 5s. C. H., 2s. 6d.; B. R., 2s. 6d.; J. A. T., 1s.; Duffery, 5s.; F. W. T., 2s.; M. C. W., 5s.; Reader, 5s.; E. F., 2s. 6d.; R. Y. P. C., 2s. 6d.; Christian Mother, 10s.; Sympathy, 1s.

With reference to Human Document LXXXIII. we have received the sum of 35s. from H. J. W., which has been forwarded to the man in question.

THE EDINBURGH USHER HALL SCANDAL.

AT LAST THE COUNCIL MOVES.

In our issue of November 13th, 1909, we directed attention to the Usher Bequest. Mr. Usher was a wealthy Edinburgh brewer who presented to the city £100,000 for the purpose of building a public hall to perpetuate his memory amongst his fellow-citizens. Soon afterwards he died. This was about ten years ago, and the hall has still to be built. As we said in November, ten years is a long time to hold up £100,000, given for what may be called an immediate definite purpose. With compound interest it must by this time be substantially in excess of the original sum. Soon after our article appeared, the Lord Provost wrote to us to explain how the funds stood, and now we are glad to find that at last steps are to be taken to give effect to Mr. Usher's wishes. Mr. Usher gave the money in order to provide "a centre of attraction to musical artists and performers and to the citizens of Edinburgh and others who may desire to hear good music, instrumental and vocal, for the purpose of promoting and extending the cultivation of and taste for music, not only in Edinburgh, but throughout the country." The money was handed over to the County Council in 1896, and now fourteen years afterwards, largely due to the action of the present Lord Provost, a workable scheme has been formulated, and there is good hope that before very long a building will be erected which will be worthy of the bequest.

HANWELL.

We have received the following letter from an inmate of Hanwell Lunatic Asylum:—

I note with pleasure your publication of a protest from some of the patients at Long Grove, and should like to point out that the administration here is also very loose.

By law the "Visiting Committee" who have power to grant absolute discharge, are required to visit and see each patient and give opportunity for interview. These visits are not made, and several months have elapsed since the Committee paid such a visit. This makes detention illegal, and I have applied for discharge on these grounds.

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2/6 DOWN.

We all of us sooner or later desire to become possessors of a complete set of Dickens. No household worthy of the name should be without the works of the great master who has moved more people to laughter and to tears than any other man that ever lived.

But if you are a lover of books, you will want volumes that are at once beautiful to look at, easy to handle and easy to read, and at the same time obtainable at a most modest price.

The Charles Dickens Library meets all these requirements once and for all. It is distinctive enough and sumptuous enough to form a possession of which anyone might be proud, while at the same time it is within the reach of all who can pay 2/6 down, and a few further monthly payments of 7/6.

And cheap as it is, it will be still cheaper to advance subscribers. Those who send in their orders within the next few days will receive a surprisingly large discount.

The Charles Dickens Library is the first issue of Dickens illustrated by one artist throughout, and the artist is the one man now living who by universal consent is best fitted for the task, namely, Mr. Harry Furniss, the creator of that immortal advertisement: "Two years ago I used your soap, since when I have used no other." Mr. Furniss has devoted over a year of his life to the congenial task of enriching the Charles Dickens Library with 500 special plates.

But Mr. Furniss is not the only artist who has interpreted Dickens. The efforts of his predecessors have been collected in one volume entitled The Dickens Picture Book, and readers will enjoy the opportunity of comparing them with Mr. Furniss's magnificent series of drawings. Another special volume is The Dickens Companion, which is practically an encyclopædia of Dickens.

The Library runs to eighteen volumes in all, and each is prefaced by the story of its origin and a dictionary of the characters. The volumes measure 7½ by 5 in., are handsomely bound in blue cloth, and printed in pleasant and readable type on good paper. This feature has been singularly appreciated by all who have seen the pages.

Altogether the issue of The Charles Dickens Library is one of the events of the year. Even at its published price it represents a great bargain, while if you miss the huge discount given to advance subscribers it will be a matter of life-long regret.

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WHY I STRUCK.

By Jim Crow.

[*Mr. James Crow is our Licensed Crank. A brilliant exponent of unconventional ideas—invariably distorted and lacking in perspective; cynical and epigrammatic in expression—he is a journalistic cat amongst the pigeons. We accept no responsibility for his opinions—or his life.*]

Members of my congregation have been weeping and gnashing their teeth and cursing the alleged editor, and indignantly demanding their money back—ingenuous people!—when they opened *my* pages and fumbled and searched and lo I was not. This shows the shortness of their memories as well as the heat of their breath, for at this time of year I am wont to disappear. I go on strike—or at least I strike my tent and take up my pack and set forth in search of the sun, only to find a fœtid casino; I seek health and lose money; I struggle after amusement and wallow in the disgust of despair.

Strike Home.

All the same, my trusties were right; like Arsène Lupin, I owe my safety to my avoidance of the obvious. There was no doubt among inductive ratiocinators that I should now be sucking oranges and watching suicides on the old rock at Monaco; in fact, the threatened revolution there was probably organised by me. So I determined to remain at home. No more pleasures and palaces for me. But I felt so seriously dissatisfied with the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches that it was requisite and necessary for me to go on strike. After all, everybody goes on strike nowadays, down to the very purveyors of our pleasures. Why not I?

Sabotage.

Of course, sabotage is the most amusing, as well as the most effective form of striking. Like most foul and funny things, it has a French origin. Nobody but Johnny Crapaud would ever have thought of that peculiar form of passive resistance. You don't walk about with a banner or rattle a money-box or spout from the top of a tub. Nor do you organise a hunger-march and a thirst-crawl and a peaceful brawl. No need of pickets or pickpockets or pick-plates. Not even necessary to lock anybody out of house and home. Devil a bit need we dream of the stern, sad faces who contemplate the moment when savings have been exhausted, blankets pawned, rubber-shares sacrificed, and the patience of friendly societies stretched beyond that of Job.

Rich Red Tape.

Not at all. You keep your job. You turn up punctually at the expected hour. You grin with all the politeness of the proverbial dog. You merely announce that you intend to abide by the letter of your law. If there are regulations, all the better, because a rigid interpretation of them will enable you to demonstrate the folly of red tape. If you are a post-office clerk, you will take half an hour to sell a penny stamp. You will take infinite pains to assure yourself of the quality of its gum. Or you will remind a customer that smoking is not allowed in the office, you will resolutely decline to register a letter or weigh a parcel until one of your accomplices has consented to put out his intrusive cigarette. I need not labour the point—sabotage is the virtue of subordinate obedience reduced to the meticulous absurdity of bureaucracy.

Searching for a Victim.

All this I remembered when I determined that I would vent my spleen and gratify my liver by going on strike. But how was I to go on strike? I am an author of philosophical works, which have no readers; an historian overshadowed by Carlyle, Macaulay, and Munchaüsen; an unacted dramatist; a statesman who has not yet been Prime Minister, or even in Parliament. If I struck in any of those directions, I might meet the painful answer: good riddance. My sabotage would have been welcomed as though I were a bear of rubber. Then I remembered that I did occasionally write for this little ubiquitous paper, and that I might disappoint many disciples, sadden many homes, if I held my peace.

The Conspiracy of Silence.

That, however, was not enough for my sardonic and savage purpose. As I write most of the paragraphs, articles, answers to correspondents, biscuits, Dahles and other dismal dithyrambs, I could have brought you all to a standstill by putting my tongue in my cheek and refusing to dictate, by replacing my stylographic pen (if I had one) in my empty pocket. But that would not have been scientific sabotage.

Le jeu est fait.

So I girded my loins and tossed off a beaker of barley-water and turned my attention to the annoyance of my interim editor (on whom be peace!). I wrote sentences so cryptic that no member of the staff had the faintest suspicion what I would be at; I evolved phrases so meaningless that they incontinently passed muster for epigrams; jests so recondite that none scented the smallest suspicion of salacity. The editor scratched his head and grinned, the sub-editor whistled and pasted, the compositor nudged the Father of his Chapel and composed, the printer forbore to frown. Everything appeared with all the frankness of Holy Writ. I had pulled every leg as though I tackled but one centipede. Everything in the garden was lovely.

Rien ne va plus.

So all the poor dears quaffed nectar and went down to the sea in trains, and solemnly celebrated the Feast of the Resurrection. It was only when the fumes of fusel-oil had faded and equinoxial orgies had given place to the daily round, the common task, that they realised, over their quick lunches of beer and hard-boiled eggs, what they had done. Writs for libel rained in upon them like fig-leaves in Vallambrosa, men and suffragettes mobbed the office with truncheons, the charwoman had a slight attack of sleeping sickness, Crosland wept, Crow crowed. "My dear Crow, are you aware that you have written a very cruel and serious slander," quoth the raven of South Hackney, "and that we may have to pay many thousands of pounds to compound your crime?" O-la-la! Isn't it lucky that rubber continues to rise?

Meningitis.

Certes, that was my best joke. But I enjoyed small ones, too. I telegraphed at the last moment that a page must absolutely be reserved for a pronouncement of imperial moment, and then I went off to carouse at the East End Hotel and forgot all about it. I accumulated a fine stock of biscuits and gave them all to my pugdog. I allowed one man to inquire three times whether the Boers delivered the ultimatum which provoked the war, and his bet is not settled yet, though he asseverates that charity may benefit. It is a merry world, my masters—and mistresses.

L. s. d.

Meanwhile, I have retired from the turf and gone into the City.

"THE LAST OF THE ENGLISH."

A GOOD PLAY.

By Mary Meadows.

I came across a little red book the other day, and I confess it did not attract me at the first blush, for it was called "The Last of the English: A Play in Four Acts," by Arthur Scott Craven. Here, I sighed, is another Tom Fool with one more version of the silly German scare, an unpatriotic wretch who believes that bold Britons would fall an easy prey to the first foreigner who descended upon our shores. The name of Craven, methought, was singularly appropriate. A play, too, by my halidom! It is bad enough to have to listen to one in the foul atmosphere of a play-house, without being coerced into reading one in cold blood.

A lucky incident, however, induced me to dip, and, having dipped, I pursued my swim from cover to cover with increasing refreshment and exhilaration. The last of the English turns out to be the victim, not of modern Teutons, but of William the Conqueror, and we are presented with a graceful picture of his thrilling times. The blank verse is easy and picturesque, and I feel justified in congratulating Mr. Craven upon a work of considerable literary merit. If only he had lived three or four centuries ago, he would now, certes, be considered a classic.

SOME CURIOUS ADVERTISEMENTS.

Dine at Mrs. Moore's Restaurant; the first to introduce chip potatoes into Perth.

Now On, Our Annual Half-yearly Sale; catalogues free by post.

Wanted, man and woman, under 40; state length of character and reason for living.

Man or Italian wanted to go with small merry-go-round.

Hunting Season.—To let, Blank Rectory; excellent stabling, large grounds, 11 bedrooms, hounds constantly run through.

Wanted, quantity of Ladies' Tongues, bound by the binding machine.

Chocolates.—We solicit a trial, and have no fear of giving satisfaction.

Young Woman wanted, used to stove, sleep in, closed on Sundays.

A Great Offer to all Lovers of Dickens

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It is probable that our various readers have, at various times, promised themselves an edition of the works of Charles Dickens; and this even though they may now possess various more or less treasured copies of the more widely-read of Dickens' Books.

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It is characteristic of the greatest writers that they do not yield their choicest gifts to the casual reader. And it is only those who read and re-read and read yet again the works of Dickens who know how inexhaustible is the pure pleasure he never fails to afford.

No lover of books, no one who enjoys a good story with its blended elements of refreshing laughter, tender feeling and wise and humorous views of life—above all, no family circle ought to be without an edition of the novels of Charles Dickens.

The London Edition of Dickens.

The Caxton Publishing Company have no hesitation in affirming that in the London Edition of the Works of Dickens, they are offering to the public the most attractive, and the most useful edition yet offered to the public, of all the editions of Dickens that are continually being put on the market. A consideration of the list of the various and unique points of excellence that distinguish the Caxton Publishing Company's "London" edition will go far to establish this somewhat daring claim. The biography of the author, the specially written introductions, the notes, and the general editorial arrangement, as well as the beautiful and unique illustrations, give to these books a value not possessed by any other edition now before the public. When to this is added the advantageous nature of the special offer which the publishers make—an offer to deliver the Dickens edition with Presentation Plate for a merely nominal payment of half-a-crown—it will be granted that this is a unique offer in the history of bookselling.

Some Points of Excellence.

The London Edition includes a Life of Charles Dickens, in two volumes, by the famous Dickensian, the late F. G. Kitton, author of "Charles Dickens by Pen and Pencil," and of "Charles Dickens and his Illustrators." This fine Biography is no mere sketch or appreciation of the master, but is a fully detailed and fascinating life by an author who had exceptional opportunities and capacity for writing it. Each novel is prefixed by a short illustrated introduction, giving the date and circumstances in which it was written and interesting particulars about the actual place in which the scene of the novel is laid. More than this, the most famous and real of Dickens's characters are traced back to their original prototypes; this is a very interesting and valuable feature.

As regards outward style and wearing qualities, the London Edition is exceptionally well turned out, and is such as befits a set of books that will be in very constant use. The publishers justly claim that they here offer to book lovers, and to lovers of Dickens more especially, an Edition de Luxe at a popular price.

Cruikshank's Original Illustrations.

No edition of Dickens's works is complete without the famous original illustrations by "Phiz," Cruikshank and Leech, Seymour and Cattermole; for Dickens himself approved their work as the best embodiment in picture form of his own idea. These illustrations have hitherto appeared in black and white only, except in the case of one or two novels issued at very high prices. But in this fine London Edition, out of a total of 336 plates, 104 are beautifully coloured, and this for the first time in an edition at a popular price. Besides these splendid plates in colour and in black and white there are, in the specially-written introductions to the novels, interesting illustrations of famous places in Dickensland. These have been specially drawn by artists, who are also ardent Dickensians, and who travelled through the whole country for the purpose. The Life of Dickens is also profusely illustrated, and contains rare and valuable portraits of Dickens and of his friends, beautifully printed by the Vandyck process.

A Presentation Plate for Framing.

With every set of the London Edition of the Works of Charles Dickens, the publishers will present gratis a magnificent photogravure portrait of Dickens, 17 inches by 24 inches, and suitable for framing. The value of this fine picture may be judged from the fact that the plate is priced and sold at one guinea net.

It will be seen from this very brief description of the many points of advantage the "London" Dickens possesses over all other editions now before the public, that the publishers are fully justified in claiming, as they do most confidently, that no edition to equal this has ever yet been put on the market, whether comparison is made of all-round excellence or of price, or of both these features taken together.

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MR. G. PALASTER, Haggerston Road, N.E. :—
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MR. R. H. RADLEY, Heathfield Avenue, Dover :—
"I am highly satisfied with the set of Dickens' Works, and I consider the illustrations are excellent. The print, too, is good, and I have much pleasure in reading them."

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The Publishers have compiled a handsomely illustrated prospectus of "THE LONDON DICKENS," which will be sent POST FREE to all who use this form. It tells all about this fine edition, the division of the volumes, etc., and gives specimens of the illustrations. It also tells of their offer to deliver the edition, carriage paid, for a first payment of 2s. 6d., the balance being paid by small monthly payments.

To the Caxton Publishing Co.,
Clun House, Surrey Street, London, W.C.

Please send me, free of charge, and without any obligation, fullest information about "The London Dickens," with particulars of your plan of monthly payments.

NAME .....
(Send this Form or a post-card mentioning JOHN BULL.)

ADDRESS .....

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THE POLITICAL PILGRIM'S PROGRESS.—VI.

(This series commenced in our issue of February 26th.)

By John Corn.

Now, over the doorway of 67, Long Acre was written, "Join the League." *Briton*, therefore, knocked, and at last there came one to the door, named *Business*.

Briton: "Here is a patriot burdened with party shibboleths. I came because my nation is doomed—according to the newspapers—to destruction, and I would seek that prosperous, progressive, free, and happy nation promised in my book John Bull. I would, therefore, Sir, know if you are willing to let me in to join the League?"

"I am willing with all my heart," said *Business*.

So when *Briton* was stepping in, the other gave him a pull. Then, said *Briton*, "What means that?" The other told him. "A little distance from this place there is erected a strong castle, of which *Ridicule* is the captain; from thence, both he and them that are with him, shoot arrows at those that come up to this door, if haply they may prevent them from entering in."

Then said *Briton*, "I rejoice and tremble." So when he was got in, the man who had opened the door asked him who had directed him thither?

Briton: "*Commonsense* bid me come hither, and knock and he said that you would tell me what I must do."

Business: "An open road is now before thee, and no man can close it."

Briton: "Now I begin to reap the benefits of my hazards."

Business: "But how is it that you came alone?"

Briton: "Because none of my neighbours saw the danger as I see it."

Business: "Did any of them know of your coming?"

Briton: "Yes; my wife and children saw me at the first, and called after me to turn again; also, some of my neighbours stood crying and calling after me to return."

Business: "But did none of them follow you, to persuade you to go back?"

Briton: "Yes, both *Tory* and *Radical*; but when they saw that they could not prevail, *Tory* went railing back to his party club, but *Radical* came with me a little way."

Business: "But why did he not come through?"

Briton: "We, indeed, came both together, until we came at the Slough of *Disputation*, into which we also suddenly fell. And then was my neighbour *Radical* discouraged, and would not venture further. Wherefore, getting out again on that side next to his party club, he told me I should possess the new nation alone for him."

Then said *Business:* "Alas, poor man! is the welfare of the nation of so small esteem with him that he counteth it not worth while running the hazards of a few difficulties?"

"Truly," said *Briton*. "It is true he went back to his own party club, but I also went aside to go in the way of *Revolution*, being persuaded thereto by the persuasive tongue of one Mr. *Idealist*."

Business: "Oh! did he light upon you? What! he would have had you a-sought for ease at the hands of Mr. *Socialist*. But did you take his counsel?"

Briton: "Yes, as far as I durst: I went to find out Mr. *Socialist*, until I thought that the mountain of *Revolution* that stands by his house would have fallen upon my head; wherefor there I was forced to stop."

Business: "That mountain has been the undoing of many men and nations, and will be of many more."

Briton: "Why, truly, I do not know what had become of me there, had not *Commonsense* happily met me again."

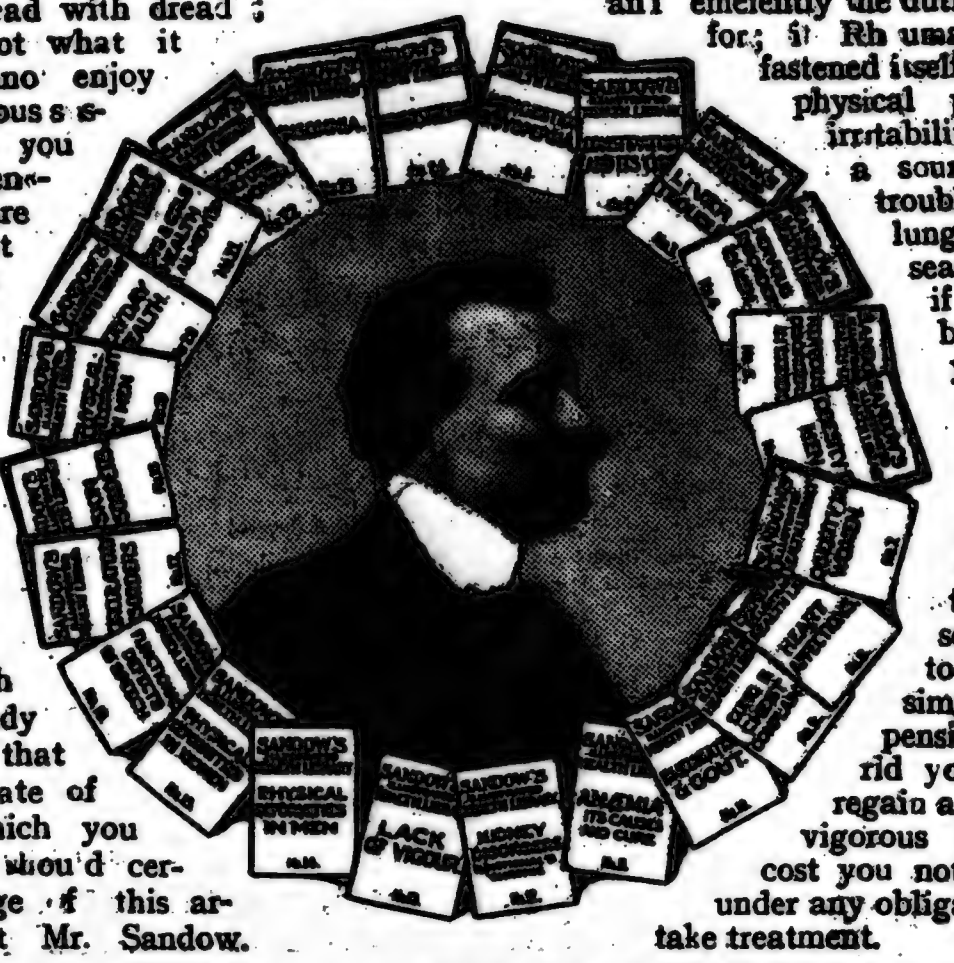
(To be continued.)

OH, FOR THAT BUSINESS GOVERNMENT!

MR SPEAKER SIR! I BEG TO ASK WHETHER
YES, I'M PRETTY PARTIAL
OLD MOTHER HUBBARDS DOG WAS A WHITE DOG A BROWN DOG,
TO LAMB
AN OLD DOG A YOUNG DOG A THOROUGH-BRED
AND MINT SAUCE YOU KNOW BUT
OR SIMPLY A MONGREL
I PREFER A NICE JUICY STEAK

HOW ARE YOU?

IF you are feeling "run down" and generally out of sorts; if upon waking in the morning you have still that tired feeling which makes you look upon the hours ahead with dread; if your Digestion is not what it might be, and you cannot enjoy your food; if your Nervous system is out of order and you experience a sense of general irritability; if you are worried by unimportant trifles, which assume terrific proportions; if you suffer from sleeplessness, and the hours of darkness are torture to your overwrought brain; if your flesh is increasing with consequent physical and mental discomforts—for obesity is a disease which often affects both body and mind—it is clear that you are not in the state of perfect health to which you can attain, and you should certainly take advantage of this arrangement to consult Mr. Sandow.



If you are afflicted with Liver Troubles which cause unnecessarily continued pain and suffering; if your Kidneys are not performing thoroughly and efficiently the duties they are intended for; if Rheumatism or Gout has fastened itself upon you, inflicting physical pain and nervous irritability; if your heart is a source of alarm and trouble to you; if your lungs and chest are the seat of some complaint, if the state of your blood and condition of your skin are such as to cause internal disorder or surface disfigurement, it is quite evident you cannot reply that you are well. You should therefore avail yourself of this opportunity to learn how, by a simple, gentle, and inexpensive method, you may rid yourself of illness, and regain a full measure of robust, vigorous health. Advice will cost you nothing, nor place you under any obligation to subsequently take treatment.

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an opportunity to all sufferers of A FREE INVESTIGATION of his Method of curing illness without Medicine by which

THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE

in all parts of the world during recent years

HAVE OBTAINED PERFECT HEALTH.

It is to enable everyone, whether resident in the country, in the Colonies, or abroad, to participate in this offer that Mr. Sandow has specially prepared the Illustrated Health Library of 24 small volumes detailed below, which show exactly how and why Curative Physical Culture, which method is now generally regarded as the most valuable adjunct of medical science, may be expected to give relief and bring about a cure of the illnesses and conditions mentioned in the following Booklets:—

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1. Indigestion and Dyspepsia.	9. Lung and Chest Complaints.	17. Circulatory Disorders.
2. Constipation and its Cure.	10. Rheumatism and Gout.	18. Skin Disorders.
3. Liver Troubles.	11. Anæmia: Its Cause and Cure.	19. Physical Development for Men.
4. Nervous Disorders in Men.	12. Kidney Disorders: Functional and Chronic.	20. Everyday Health.
5. Nervous Disorders in Women.	13. Lack of Vigour.	21. Boys' and Girls' Health and Ailments.
6. Obesity in Men.	14. Physical Deformities in Men.	22. Figure Culture for Women.
7. Obesity in Women.	15. Physical Deformities in Women.	23. Insomnia.
8. Heart Affections.	16. Functional Defects in Speech.	24. Neurasthenia.

If you are unable to call personally at the Institute to secure a consultation, for which no charge is made, you should choose the small volume dealing with the trouble on which advice is required, and write for it, utilising the form below, to Mr. Eugen Sandow, 32 St. James' Street, London, S.W., giving full particulars, which will be treated in confidence, and will enable an opinion to be formed on the case. You will receive a copy, together with a personal letter as to the suitability of your trouble for treatment by his method, as nearly by return of post as possible.

"JOHN BULL'S" Special Form for obtaining Mr. Sandow's Advice and Literature concerning the Sandow Treatment.

To EUGEN SANDOW, 32, St. James' Street, London, S.W.

Please send me a copy of Vol. No.....together with an opinion as to whether mine is a case for treatment by scientific exercise

Please say whether Mr., Mrs., Miss, or other title — NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

Essential particulars are: Age..... Occupation.....

Ailment or physical defect from which relief is desired.....

Give here further particulars of your condition, and continue on your ordinary notepaper .....

HAIR CUTTING AND SHAVING—5 A PENNY!

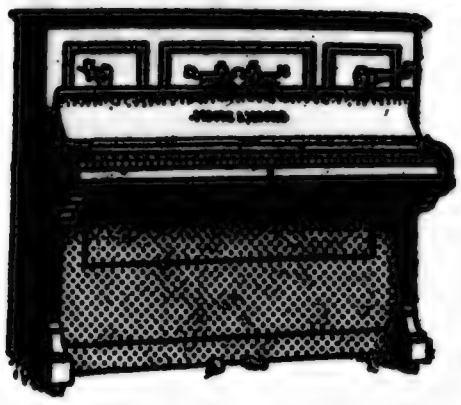
AND ONLY TRADE UNIONISTS TO APPLY!

We have received the following interesting letter from Mr. Albert King, Vice-President of the London and Suburban Master Hairdressers' Association :—

Permit me to bring to the notice of the readers of John Bull the following iniquitous methods of the Poplar and Stepney Sick Asylums Board. Advertisements appear in certain local papers, inviting application for forms for tender for contract for several trades, amongst them being my own, the hairdressing. I applied for the official form, which was duly forwarded me, and I found upon going through the contents that there were 420 persons to be shaved twice per week, making a total of 840, and 530 persons for hair-cutting, presumably once a month (it doesn't state), and that the successful candidate *must pay the Trade Union rate of wages* to anyone who may be sent to do the work, the Board also claiming the right to give you any further incidental hairdressing work that may come along, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest, or any tender, Now I, thinking I was dealing with a good, sound, business board, especially in view of the *Trade Union rate of wages clause*, put in my price as £2 10s., that being about ½d. a shave, and 1d. hair cut. Another man £2 4s., another £1 4s., and the successful candidate £1 3s. per week. So you see these justice-loving guardians of the sick poor of Poplar and Stepney have agreed to a man cutting hair and shaving in a sick institution at the rate of 5 a 1d. Surely this must be counted as iniquity, if only in justice to an already very much underpaid trade; then look at the other aspect of the case. I can assure you, from years of experience, that it is absolutely impossible for one man to attend to 1,000 persons per week, so what is to be the result? Some will get attention, some will not—and those who do will, and must, be badly handled, if he is to get through half the work, and at a time when the poor creatures require a little tenderness and care. I suppose the Board will consider it has done its duty to the unfortunate inmates under its care; consideration for business men who go to the trouble and expense of tendering at their invitation is quite out of the question, when they on their part haven't the least intention of carrying out the terms of the contract, or they wouldn't accept a tender at 23s. per week when the Trade Union rate of wages is 27s. I think *business* methods *here* would not be out of place.

Crude Rubber Washing Co., Ltd.

The constantly increasing variety of purposes to which rubber is put, and the incessant growth of the uses of that invaluable commodity for such purposes as electrical works and motor vehicles, create an ever-widening circle of activity for all who are engaged in its production and its preparation for commercial use. For some time past the British Murac Syndicate, Limited, has been engaged in the operation of the Murac-Dessau patent for purifying and cleansing rubber, and its business is now being acquired by the Crude Rubber Washing Company, Limited, which has been formed for the purpose, and for the further purpose of working in the United Kingdom, the Continent of Europe, the United States, and Canada, machinery invented by Mr. Leon Guiguet for the cleansing, purification, and rectification of Rubber and other gums. Mr. Guiguet is well known in connection with rubber machinery, while the Murac-Dessau machine is the invention of the well-known rubber expert, Mr. Morland M. Dessau, who, it is interesting and important to note, becomes the manager of the new Company. At the present time something like 75,000 tons of rubber are produced every year, and the quantity is destined to be enormously increased in the near future. A large part of it, however, reaches Europe containing dirt, bark, and other impurities, which must be removed before the commodity can be used in manufacture. The value of an effective cleansing apparatus is thus manifest. Mr. Dessau's machine has been subjected to close examination and experimental tests, which have proved to the satisfaction of experts that practically the whole of the foreign vegetable matter contained in crude rubber subjected to the process is removed and that the loss of rubber is infinitesimal. As high an authority as Mr. Herbert Wright, the late Controller of the Government Experimental Station in Ceylon, after witnessing tests, has expressed his views in these words:—"The work is rapidly and effectively done. I am of opinion that the treatment of dirty rubber by these machines should result in a large and profitable business." The British Murac Syndicate, at its Works at Edmonton, have given the process practical application since October, 1908, with highly satisfactory results. The Company will begin by establishing plant with an annual production of about 1,000 tons of standardised washed rubber, which it is estimated will suffice to procure a return of 25 per cent. on the capital of £250,000.



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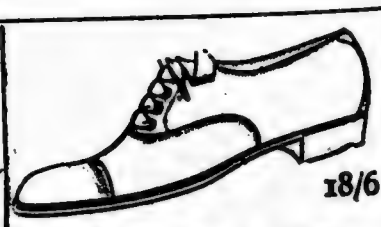

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in a natural, easy, certain way. Inexpensive and effective. Try a bottle—and drink half a glass on arising.

"SPOOFING" THE ADMIRALTY.

"DREADNOUGHT" SECRETS GIVEN AWAY—THE THAMES IRONWORKS FLOATING CRANE—MR. McKENNA'S BLUNDER—GERMAN EXULTATION—ADMIRALTY LAXITY.

In accordance with our promise last week, we return to the subject of that floating crane, ordered from Germany by the Thames Ironworks in connection with their *Dreadnought* contract.

Mr. McKenna's Indiscretions.

The whole shipbuilding trade is aghast at two of the statements recently made by the First Lord of the Admiralty—viz., that he has nothing to do with the question of the plant by means of which our battleships are built by contractors, and that Germany is far ahead of us in the building of floating cranes. Upon the first point, let us quote the *Iron and Steel Trades Journal*:—

> It does strike the man in the street as tantamount to adding insult to injury that such orders for special plant as are imperative should be placed outside this country by the Thames Ironworks Company, one of the concerns that has been shouting the loudest and the longest for special consideration to be paid to British workmen and British capital. When it was found necessary to call tenders for a special floating crane required in the building of the vessel, notwithstanding that a British firm of standing and experience had tendered for this crane, the order was given to a German firm.

As to the splendid advertisement given to our German rivals, here is what one of the largest contractors in Great Britain thinks: "For the First Lord to get up in the House and make such statements is simply disgusting. Germany is now using this as an advertisement before the whole world—that she can beat the English manufacturer in both design and quality. It must be a great help to them in obtaining orders where the English have hitherto been looked upon as the leading makers of this class of goods."

The Floating Crane Incident.

Let us now deal with Mr. McKenna's shufflings about the German crane. We are in a position to say that it was always intended that the contract should go to Germany. It was only at the last moment that English firms heard of the matter and insisted upon tendering. Then only a few days were given them for the purpose. Several interviews took place between the English builders and the Thames Ironworks Company, and never, upon any occasion, was their design questioned. Mr. McKenna's statement on this head is absolutely without foundation. He has been fooled. As a matter of fact, one English firm, whose tender was rejected in favour of the Germans, not long ago tendered to the Japanese for a similar crane, against this very German firm, *and its design was accepted as being more suitable for battleship building*. And yet we have Mr. McKenna now getting up in the House of Commons and telling the world that the German can beat us in this class of work—just as we were told recently that our own granite is no good! Again, this firm recently tendered to a Harbour Board for an 80-ton floating crane, this time in competition with the Thames Ironworks Company itself—*and again its design was accepted*. So it does not look as though the Thames Company were great authorities on crane designs. As to the point that the Admiralty overseer will be at the yard during the construction of the *Dreadnought*, we do not see that this will prevent the German supervisor from using his eyes, more especially as he will be on the jib of the crane—commanding a full view of the *Dreadnought* and the whole yard—whilst the Admiralty overseer will be down below. In regard to the suggestion that the Thames Company is itself building the barge which will carry the crane, and therefore the bulk of the work done by the German firm will be done upon the barge away from the shipbuilding yard, we should like to ask what British yard on the Thames having the necessary sheer legs for the erection of the crane has arranged to lend their yard and plant to the German firm? And how does Mr. McKenna reconcile this absurd theory with what he said when first questioned—viz., that before the German workmen had finished the crane, and left the yard, very little real progress would have been made with the *Dreadnought*? So much for the First Lord of the Admiralty and his shufflings. Of his flippant remark that anyone could take a skiff and see as much of the *Dreadnought* as the German workmen, we say nothing more than that it is a pity that the First Lord of the Admiralty fails to appreciate the difference between the outside and the inside of a battleship.

The Change of Plans.

It is quite evident that our intervention has had the effect of completely changing the plans of the Thames Company. This is what a leading shipbuilding expert writes: "Mr. McKenna's speech reads as though he thought any talk good enough for the people he was dealing with. No doubt he has given you the position *to-day*; but—what he had to deal with was the position when you first drew his attention to the matter, and he simply tried to sit upon you. Besides, you must remember that *all his statements are on the word of the contractor*. If what he now says is true, the contractor must have an agreement as to the erection of the crane. Why didn't he, in response to your challenge, produce this agreement?"

Are German Cranes Superior?

As to the alleged superiority of the German crane, what says Mr. McKenna to this—from a well-known engineer?

> I saw your question asked in the House a few days ago as to the German-built crane to be erected at the Thames Ironworks for the building of the *Dreadnought*, also the glib answer given by the First Lord of the Admiralty and the ostentatious prominence given by that gentleman to the "superiority" of the foreign make. Now I think if you like to make a few enquiries in reference to a German-built crane of the type to which your question related, at the shipyard of Vickers, Maxim at Barrow, you may learn something about a "Giant" shipbuilding crane of German build that was erected there some three years ago, and that refused to carry its own weight and tumbled to pieces some time before it had been completely set up.

And here is another account, from a Barrow-in-Furness correspondent, of the incident:—

> Perhaps it may be worth your while to ask "What happened to the 150-ton crane built by a German firm (probably the same one) for Vickers, Sons and Maxim some three years ago?" If truth be told, your answer will be this: "When nearly completed, residents in the district of Barrow-in-Furness were awakened about 2 a.m., by a mighty roar like an earthquake, which was heard 10 miles away. Next morning we saw what had happened. *One of the great arms of the crane had collapsed bodily and fallen some hundreds of feet to the ground*. Fortunately, no one was near at the time, *but I shudder to think of the consequences had the accident occurred during the day, as several hundreds of men were working on, or in the near vicinity of the crane*. So much for German-built cranes.

Next week we shall have something more to say. Mr. McKenna will find that we are not easily shaken off.

EXECUTING THE PEOPLE'S "BILL."

[Mr. Asquith's Veto Resolutions provide that Bills which survive three rejections by the Lor become law.]

Don't forget you are allowed three blows—but you mustn't kill him."

"All right—I won't hurt him."

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

By Verax.

How Long will the Rubber Boom Last?—An Oil Boom in the Making—Kaffirs, Rhodesians and West Africans Next.

The Rubber share boom is still in full swing, and such is the pressure of buyers anxious to secure an interest in this favourite gamble that the unfortunate jobbers who are frequenting this market are almost reduced to pulp. Only the muscular member is able to penetrate into the crowd sufficiently to carry out orders in a veritable Babel, and a number are already on the invalid list. The novelty is that nearly all the business is transacted on cash terms, and that the cash, in many instances, comes out of the stockings of people throughout the country who never did any Stock Exchange business before. Do not ask me how long this will last—it is impossible to tell; but for the sake of their own safety it is to be hoped that these speculators will realise at least a portion of their profits and invest them in other promising and safer stocks. As this latter movement makes progress, the boom is bound to break out in other sections, for the speculative spirit is thoroughly aroused. That it has already brought about a rise in *Home Rails* is not surprising, but I anticipate that *Kaffir* and *Rhodesian Mines*, already predisposed to an improvement, will enter the lists with a strong upward movement, for which there is, moreover, a sound basis. This week should also see the ushering in of a more active period in the *Oil Share Market*, and especially in the *Maikop* properties, respecting which I have collected some valuable data. Jungles are following suit, and even now there is a firmer tone in *South* and *Central American Government* and *Railway stocks, Canadian Pacifics, Canadian Land* shares, etc., and provided the Bank of England is enabled to replenish its stock of gold from the consignments of South African gold and from supplies from New York which are now offering, I shall look for rising prices.

Rubber in Command—Para Rubber Up at 11s. 6d.—The Share Market Again Hoisted—Rise in Molesworth Rubbers—Henriquez More Active.

The Rubber Share Market has been hoisted again by enormous transactions, brokers being overwhelmed with buying orders. The rise thus brought about was assisted by another important advance in fine hard *Para Rubber* to 11s. 6d., which compares with the highest price touched of 9s. 3½d. (in October, 1909). That there is a strong demand for consumption which cannot for the time being be satisfied is, of course, proved. The question now is how long this will last, and how long the rubber craze will hold out. I hope my readers, who, to my knowledge stand to make huge profits, will take these in time. *Linggi*, which I quoted on March 19th 49s., now have risen to 64s., *Selangor* from 64s. to 4⅛, *Inch Kenneth* from £13 to £19½, *Vallambrosa* from 42s. 6d. to 6s., *Pataling* from 53s. 6d. to 3½, *Kuala Lumpur* from £9½ to £12¾, *Malacca* from £12 to £17, *Highlands* from £7 to 8⅛, *Cicely* from 46s. to 65s., etc. Jequié are now up at 16s., West Jequié at 6s. 6d. By the way, I was the first to point out last week that *Ceylon Consol, Rubber Estates* were neglected and obtainable at 3d. premium. The shares have since become one of the most active amongst the lower-priced shares and now stand at 3s. premium. I also said that *Molesworth Brothers' Rubber Estates* would have a sharp rise after the statutory meeting. This took place on Thursday, when the Chairman, Viscount Molesworth, made very favourable statements. The price thereupon rose to 5s. 9d. buyers and should go considerably higher as a strong firm has cleared the market. Another low-priced rubber share, Henriquez Estates, also is receiving attention. The Company owns a plantation of 450 acres containing at least 100,000 rubber trees, all over six years old, and a forest of 40,000 acres, containing rubber and mahogany trees. Tapping on a commercial scale starts this week, and already 300,000 square feet of mahogany have been felled. Thus with every prospect of large dividends, the shares should stand at a much higher price than 5s., and they are now rising. I hear that *Nyassa* shares, now quoted 1 premium, will have an early rise. By the way, my readers should be very careful in subscribing to new companies. A correspondent kindly sends me an extract from the *Straits Times* denouncing the price charged for the *Kuali Pahi* Rubber Estate, Kelantan, as extortionate. The *Straits Times*, in analysing the figures, maintains that the vendor's profit was 75 per cent. too much. By the way, the *London Venture Corporation* has, I hear, several important new companies on the *tapis*, Rubber and otherwise, besides other deals, and I shall not be surprised to see them considerably above the present price of 12s.

St. Antonio (Para) Rubber Estates, Ltd.

With a capital of £75,000 in £1 shares, this Company has been formed to acquire, as a going concern, the St. Antonio Taua and other revenue-producing freehold rubber estates all adjoining, with a total area of about 15,840 acres. The situation, only 25 to 30 miles from the port of Para, is, of course, very favourable. As, according to the prospectus, there are about 25,000 fully-grown Hevea Brasiliensis producing already, and 25,000 estimated fully grown rubber trees in portion of a virgin forest ready to be tapped at once, this is an important proposition, and some elaborate estimates of profits from the prospectus appear in another column. It is satisfactory that these profits are estimated on a basis of 4s. 6d., 4s., and 3s. 6d. per lb. of rubber against the present price of fine hard Para of upwards of 11s. 6d. per lb. It is interesting that at last some important Para Rubber plantations (and it is proposed to continue planting) and forests are coming into the market.

The Maikop Oilfield—The Greatest Oilfield of the World—How to Select Good Investments.

I promised my readers some reliable information on the *Maikop Oilfield*, and I now redeem my promise. It is far ahead of the Baku field, and has the great advantage that while the latter is 600 miles from the railway station Ekaterinoslav, which must be reached for carrying the oil to central Russia, the Maikop is only 50 to 70 miles from that station. Already arrangements are made for laying the pipe lines, in the first instance one to Ekaterinoslav, to be followed by another line to the port of Toupsé, on the Black Sea, for the export trade. A railway line is also being constructed from Toupsé, which will get within four miles of the oil springs. The oil is of excellent quality and the oil belt runs in almost a direct line, while the outcrop can be traced for twenty miles, Naphtha Town being situate in the centre. How this extraordinary accumulation of oil has been created can only be guessed at, but it was probably an old arm of the sea, or of a lake which was filled by oily fish. The dip of the oilfield is to the north, so that there is no chance of getting oil south of the outcrop, but the deeps, and deep deeps where the oil is struck in large quantities, are to the north. That portion has, however, been worked out (as has been the barren soil to the south) far beyond the limits to which it would be possible to sink wells in the deepest deep positions. This is the crucial point. I have it on the authority of Mr. C. A. Moreing, who has made three journeys to this new oilfield, and has thoroughly investigated the position, that there is a great future for well-selected blocks to the north of the outcrop, and the *London Maikop Oil Corporation, Ltd.*, which has been formed under his auspices, has secured some of the very best of these blocks, indeed quite a large area, while he has also been the means of arranging the construction of the pipe lines. The capital of the Corporation is £600,000, of which only £450,000 is issued. £150,000 will be kept in reserve, and £150,000 has been set aside as working capital, all the money having already been subscribed. All the Victoria Deep Leads Companies, with which Mr. Moreing is connected have taken participations in this Corporation. The country is charming, being well wooded, while the trees and undergrowth, intermixed with azaleas, present a beautiful appearance.

I have in the above remarks chiefly dealt with the interests of the *London Maikop Oil Corporation, Ltd.*, but I wish also to draw attention to two other allied companies, which have also selected blocks in excellent position in the field, and are powerfully backed. There is, in the first instance, the *Black Sea Oilfields, Ltd.*, now producing from a large fountain, securely capped, with a big output. The area is 270 acres, the capital £300,000 in £1 shares, of which the pref. shares are quoted ½-¾ premium for special settlement. The second is the *Anglo-Maikop Corporation*, capital £200,000, the ordinary shares of which are not obtainable under 1 premium. Of this company the B shares at 30s. are an excellent purchase, as these shares get half the profits after the A shares have received 10 per cent. As the Corporation controls 1,200 acres in the best positions, however, the profits will run into hundreds per cent., and it will obviously be the parent of other important subsidiaries. Both companies have the advantage of very capable management, the managing director being Mr. George Tweedy, a leading oil expert of twenty-five years' standing.

With reference to the development of the oil resources of Trinidad, it is interesting to learn that this week no fewer than eighteen engineers, metallurgists, etc., left Southampton for the island, all bound on proving Trinidad's petroliferous wealth. The engineer of the *Petroleum Options*,

Ltd., was amongst the number. High hopes are held as to this company's area, and there will probably be a good deal of business in the shares now quoted 3s. 3d.

KAFFIRS BRACING UP—BETTER LABOUR SUPPLY AND INCREASING PROFITS—LAND SHARES FAVOURED.

The Rubber boom still partly overshadows the South African market, but with the increasing supply of native labour and increased profits promised in the next few months, leading Rand shares are bracing up. The large mining companies are firm, especially *Randfontein Central*, which has improved to 3 1-16, while *Randfontein South* are up at 2⅛. *Randfontein Extensions* are also improving at 1 9-16—1⅝. The company owns 86 claims in the Krugersdorp district, adjoining the Randfontein Estates, and traversed by four well-defined reefs. It has also large claim holdings in the Heidelberg district on the farm Tweefontein. The meeting of the shareholders will be held shortly, when a very encouraging statement is expected. Negotiations are understood to be in progress with an important Paris house concerning the sale of the company's Rustenburg's Copper property. The company has ample working capital, and arrangements are being made to introduce the shares on the Paris Bourse. Land shares are coming into favour. *Oceana Developments*, which have a number of farms in the Zoutpansberg district, have taken a jump to 11s. 6d., and are expected to improve further owing to arrangements to explore the company's properties, which will be rendered more valuable by the extension of the Selati railway through the Zoutpansberg district. The construction of the Selati Railway is also responsible for a rise in *Harmony Proprietary* shares to 10s. 3d. A leading mining expert is being dispatched to inspect the farms, and if his report is satisfactory several of the great South African houses will take a large interest in the concern. An immediate rise to 15s. is expected.

RHODESIANS ON THE UPGRADE—AMALGAMATED PROPERTIES TO RISE—WEST AFRICAN MINES COMMENCE THEIR UPWARD MOVEMENT.

With a jump of 7-16 in *Mayo*, 9s. in *Selukwe*, and 4s. in *Wanderer*, the Rhodesian market cannot be considered inactive, but the real animation has to come yet, now that the *Consolidated Goldfields' Shamva* flotation is at hand. which will be followed by the *Enterprise Schist* promotion. *Rhodesian Mines Trust* shares are up at 19s., as it is undertaking to float its Abercorn claims jointly with the *Rhodesia Exploration Company*, which will add its adjoining Shamva claims. Here there will be strong motive power for a more general rise. *Rhodesia Gold Mining Investments*—the Lewis and Marks Trust—are very cheap in view of their valuable holdings, another cable from the Lonely Mine testifying to its great richness. A smart rise is also expected in *Amalgamated Properties of Rhodesia*, owing to the favourable developments on several of its properties. Thus, the latest Champion Reef cable states that the reef formation has been opened up for 2,000 feet, with an average assay of 12 dwt. over 40 inches. I expected to see Amalgamated a good deal higher than the present price of 12s. 6d. I do not, on the other hand, think much of the *Dwarf Gold Mining Company*. *Rhodesian Consolidateds* are up at 9s. 3d., and likely to further improve; and *Swazieland Corporation* has commenced to move. Considering the extent of its four mineral properties of over 600 square miles, as compared with a capital of £200,000 in 10s. shares, the present prices of 10s. is quite an anomaly. At last there are signs of a strong revival in West Africans. Prestea Block "A" have advanced to 33s., Prestea Mines to 10s. 6d., and Gold Coast Amalgamated are rising. It is time, therefore, to lay in promising shares, so as to have an interest in the market while it is possible to buy at a moderate price. Amongst such, New Gold Proprietary Mines, to which attention was drawn in this column last week, look particularly attractive at their present low price of 4s. 6d. to 4s. 9d. When the public realises the enormous possibilities of this Company, the quotation will probably double itself.

A MURCHISON ASSOCIATED TIP.

There is a company with an unfortunate past which owns a large property adjoining the Great Fingall, but up to the present it has not developed the rich lodes which characterised the latter. It has recently been reconstructed under the title of the *Murchison Associated, Ltd.*, and whilst retaining its gold property, it secured rubber estates and successfully floated these as the *Ceylon Consolidated Rubber Estates*, which shares stand at 60 per cent. premium. The whole issued capital of Murchison Associated. Ltd., is less than £20,000, and the shares at 1s. 6d. look very promising in view of the substantial cash profits made and a large shareholding in a rubber company standing at a good premium.

NEW ISSUE

PREMIER OIL AND PIPE LINE CO., LTD.

Particulars of Premier Oil and Pipe Line Company, Limited, with a capital of £330,000, made up of 330,000 shares of £1 each, the whole of which are now offered for subscription at par appear on another page.

The Directors and their friends have underwritten 100,000 of the above shares, of which 50,000 will be allotted to them firm.

JOHN BULL, LIMITED.

Warrants for the Six per cent. Preference Dividend for the half-year ending March 31st have been posted. We shall be glad to hear of any sellers of these shares.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL LETTER-BOX.

(1) Letters containing inquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, JOHN BULL, 2, Copthall Buildings, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

(2) Correspondents should adopt either a nom-de-plume, or mention initials under which the replies will appear in the paper. The stocks or subjects inquired about should also be numbered.

(3) Replies are only made in the ordinary way through the columns of this journal under the above heading, and not by letter.

(4) In no circumstances will the proprietors undertake the sale or purchase of stocks or shares.

(5) If inquirers wish it, the names and addresses of respectable firms of stockbrokers, members of the London Stock Exchange, for transacting business, will be supplied to them, in which case a stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed.

(6) A Postal Order for 1/- must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

KWALOE RUBBER ESTATES.—J. R. B. (Hither Green).—I cannot congratulate you upon your purchase, as these are £1 shares, 10s. paid, quoted ¼ to ⅜ discount, and Assahan (Sumatra) Rubber Estates, £1 shares, 5s. paid, ⅜ discount to par. The market view is not favourable. You should get out if you can do so without a loss.

PUBLISHING COMPANY.—F. J. W.—I should think there is very little chance of ever getting anything out of this concern, but you may at least insist upon information being given to you at the offices.

BRITISH AND COLONIAL INVESTMENTS.—A. N. B.—These shares now stand at 13s. 6d., and it is not improbable that when Kaffirs further advance the price will rise; it is one of the Ale Bailey group. One of the most promising West Africans is Prestea Mines at 10s., for the reason explained in my article.

RUBBER SPECULATION, AND CHARTERED.—YAP.—(1) Chartered shares are likely to improve, but unless you can take them up and pay for them, it is not advisable to deal. Vallambrosa Rubber has further advanced, and is getting too high. (2) Low-priced Rubber shares are also risky; and as regards No. 3, an inside broker would not deal in options for £5 or £10, and I am afraid you would only lose your money with an outside broker. (5) The rates have preference. SANITY.—The best of the two Rubber shares mentioned are Straits Bertam, but far better than either are Molesworths, being much lower priced.

STOCK EXCHANGE BUSINESS.—ZEBRA.—(a) The commissions are on the actual price paid. (b) Messrs. Effingham Wilson, of 1, Royal Exchange Buildings, E.C., are publishing such books. (c) Unless you have £50 or so, which you can easily spare, I would not advise you to speculate. (d and f) It would be futile to rely on such advice. (g) Only in case you can dispose of the necessary money.

HOUSE BROKER.—FLUFF.—The firm are outside brokers. I advise you to deal only through a member of the Stock Exchange. What you require has been forwarded to you.

INVESTMENT OF £150.—T. G. W.—You can get 3½ per cent. in Colonial Registered Stock, which is a Trustee security. You also can get from about 4 to 4½ per cent. in Home Railway stock, Japanese Government stock, etc., and from 4½ to 5 per cent. in South American, Argentine, or Brazilian Government stocks; but your stockbroker will advise you.

OUTSIDE BROKERS.—BOREHOLE.—The firm of outside brokers you inquire about are respectable, but it is not possible for me to guarantee the safety of outside brokers, and considering you are as far off as Johannesburg, you ought to deal direct with a firm of inside brokers. I have, therefore, done as you requested. B. S. M.—This is only another name for a "blind pool." Have nothing to do with such people again, and deal only through members of the Stock Exchange. I send you, as requested, the name of a suitable firm. FELIX.—(1) This is all bombastic twaddle. You should not take any notice of such circulars from outside brokers, but put them at once in the waste-paper basket. If you want to deal on the Stock Exchange, do so through a stockbroker who is a member of the Stock Exchange.

PREMIUM BONDS.—P. A. T. W. (Cape Town).—You will receive a communication from a reliable firm of foreign bankers in London who make a speciality of Premium Bonds. ENQUIRER (Ireland).—(1) I am sending the name of a respectable London firm of bankers who make a speciality of Premium Bonds, but they will not deal in Foreign Lotteries, which are illegal here. (2) Malacca Ordinary are already on the upgrade again. (3) Don't you think these Debentures are already high enough? (4) No. (5) No. They are dealing only for cash in these Rubber shares. S. P. D. (Haverfordwest).—The French Lotteries are as suitable as any, and I send you the address of a respectable firm of foreign bankers in London through whom these bonds can be bought at ruling market rates. J. G. (Sunderland).—Have nothing to do with the Stock Unions of the London Scottish Stock Exchange, or the special Stock Combines of the United Stock and Share Corporation, if you do not want to lose your money. A. B.—I send in your envelope the address of a respectable firm of foreign bankers, through whom you can buy Premium Bonds. They will, doubtless, be pleased to advise you as to the best purchases. J. B. McL.—The market price of these bonds seems to be about 80s., so that you have evidently been victim of a piece of very sharp practice. You should not deal with such people, and your only chance of recovering the money is by suing them. FORRESTER (Secunderabad, India).—You are quite right, and you should have nothing more to do with these people. I have sent you the name of a respectable firm of foreign bankers in London who make a speciality of Premium Bonds, and will take care of all your interests.

SINNER DEEP.—TYPO.—(1) This is a company which is working up to dividend point. (2) It is at present earning from £6,000 to £8,000 per month. (3) No catch. I think Randfontein Central and Randfontein South, which will in the course of the year commence work on a very large scale, and pay 30 per cent. per annum dividends, are far preferable. What you require has been forwarded.

Johnnies Investment Shares.—Alpha.—Johnnies Investment Shares should be held, as they will no doubt benefit by the new issue of Modderfontein leases about to be introduced here. The firm mentioned by you are outside brokers. They are respectable, but I do not like their system. What you require has been sent in your envelope.

Sumatra Para and Other Rubbers.—A. H. L.—Sumatra Para are the best shares you have, and should be held for a rise. No option but to keep No. 2 until the special settlement is over. You have a good profit on Labu (3), which now stand at 2¾, and as they cost you only £3 9s., you should take this. Bukit Mertajam, now at 4s. 9d., might be held for a further rise. Kali Glagah (6) 2s. shares fully paid now stand at 1s. to 1s. 3d. premium, and may further improve. Hold No. 7 and 8 until you get a fair profit.

South African Gold Mines.—F. E. B. (Clapham).—Why not pick out some other mining shares if you object to these? There is no particular reason why you should confine yourself to this one.

A Cheap West African.—W. M. T.—What you require has been forwarded in your envelope.

Mexican Promotion.—J. T.—I cannot act as intermediary in such matters, and recommend you to advertise your requirements in the leading daily newspapers, when you might be able to get into touch with a suitable firm.

Commonwealth Oil.—W. H. R.—These shares are quoted at about 14s. They are not amongst my particular favourites, but may go better along with other oil shares, and it should therefore be worth while holding for an improvement.

Rails, etc.—W. H. L.—Home Rails are now strongly on the upgrade, and you should certainly not sell Nos. 2 and 3 now. The Industrials, Nos. 3 to 5, are also good of their respective kinds, and worth keeping. The firm in question are members of the Stock Exchange, but I cannot advise as to their exact status.

Chersonese, Shelfords.—Ariel.—No one was ever ruined by taking such profits as you are now able to clear on both these shares.

Eleven Rubbers.—W. H. D.—Rubber shares may go still higher, but it is almost tempting Providence not to take such profits as you are able to clear on most of your holdings. The others you might hold a little longer, until you also see a profit on them.

£1,000 for Investment.—Bridget (Dublin).—You cannot get 5 per cent. with perfect safety; the limit is about 3½ per cent. However, the stocks mentioned are good of their kind, especially Nos. 1, 2, 4, 6, and 8. Cumulative Pref. means that the dividend is not limited to the result of any one year, but if it is not paid for one year it must be cleared up in the next, or before any distribution can be made upon the Ordinary shares. X.D. is after the dividend has been deducted from the quotation. Preferred Ordinary takes precedence as regards dividend to Deferred Ordinary. Debenture stock is usually a first charge upon the assets and profits of a concern.

Five Rubbers.—B. H.—Neither of the rubber shares in question are of the first rank, and you should take a favourable opportunity for getting rid of the same.

Regency Promoting Syndicate.—E. H.—I can find nothing out about this concern, and it looks as if you have got hold of a "bad egg." Why did you not consult me first before embarking your money in it?

San Francisco Brewers.—Perplexed.—The only issue of this concern now quoted is the £100 stock, at 15 to 20. It might be worth while holding, on the chance of the company doing better in the future.

W. E. Watts and Co.—P. McH.—I do not see how I can help you further in the matter, but I would advise you to write to the secretary of the Stock Exchange, Bristol, and place all the facts before him, and he may be able to enlighten you upon the position. No details of the concern are available in London.

Marconi's Preps.—Warwick.—It does not appear as if any dividend has yet been paid on these shares, but you should apply to the secretary of the company, Watergate House, York Buildings, Adelphi, W.C., for information as to the present position.

Wimbledon Rink.—Skelize.—I presume that no dividend has been paid, and the outlook is certainly doubtful. It is a pity you went into these shares.

Power Shares.—E. R.—(1) Mexican Light and Power are quoted about 83, and it might be worth while holding them a little longer. (2) There is no regular quotation for these railway shares, and you can do better in other descriptions. (3) The same remark applies to this stock.

Raub Gold.—Raubt.—There is no market in London for these shares, and, in my opinion, Kaffirs, Rhodesians, or West Africans would be a far better purchase.

Bankers' Balances.—Sutton.—The bankers are doubtless justified from their point of view, and you can invest the money to good advantage in trustee investment stocks, notably Colonial Government Bonds, which offer a yield up to 3½ per cent. per annum.

£50 for Investment.—F. M.—Why not put this sum into Prestea Mines, which are very cheap and promising?

Hungarian Lottery.—Lottery.—I do not recommend a spec. in this lottery, which, moreover, is illegal in this country.

Oil Companies.—F. W. G. (Crowndale Road).—A new Malkop Oil Company is coming out this week, which will be thoroughly genuine, and you will find particulars in my article. I have also sent you the name of a respectable firm of brokers, members of the Stock Exchange, upon whom you can rely.

Premium on Rubber Shares.—C. S. (Bedford Park).—I suppose that the special settlement, and the rumour about fighting amongst the native tribes has caused the relapse, and there is no option but to hold.

Newspaper Shares.—Pictorials.—This kind of share is not suitable for investment. You should sell as long as you do not make a loss.

Oils, Jungles.—Fruit.—(1, Hold, and average on any further decline. (2) These are not amongst my particular favourites in West Africans, but they might as well be kept now. (3) I think highly of Prestea Mines, as amongst the pick of the Jungle bunch. (4) About 3s.; hold (5) I do not care for these New Zealand shares. What you require has been forwarded in your envelope.

Gas and Water.—A. W.—(1) Be careful not to part with your holdings until you have the cash, but if the shares are worth this amount to the person in question they must be worth the same to you. There is no quotation for either these shares, or for the other gas and water shares mentioned, and I am afraid you will not be able to easily find a purchaser for the same.

Method of Investment.—J. T. (Luton).—Your past experience should be a warning to you, and you should have nothing to do with outside or circularising firms. Deal only with members of the Stock Exchange, and the firm whose address I sent you will doubtless be pleased to advise you how to lay out your money to the best advantage, or you might invest the same, for instance, in Western Australian Government 3½ per Cent. Bonds, which are obtainable at about 97, and are perfectly safe.

Fifteen Rubbers.—W. H. W.—The whole of your list of rubber shares belong to the newest companies, and most of them have no regular quotation, and these would be the first to feel the effects of any general setback. I advise you to take an early opportunity of lightening your load, or you will find yourself with a lot of unsaleable shares on your hands presently.

Kaffirs, Rhodesians.—Zero.—(1) I cannot advise as regards the standing of stockbrokers, but send what you require in your envelope. (2) Harmony Props. are a good spec. (3) Ditto as regards Ventures, which are having a fresh rise. (4) Hold Rhodesian Coppers for a fair rise.

Four Holdings.—Alex.—(1) No quotation. (2) Ditto. (3) Ditto. (4) Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway 3 per cent. Preference is a good holding. What you ask for has been forwarded in your envelope.

Cuban Bonds.—F. L.—These are a good holding amongst Foreign Government securities, but are not absolutely safe.

Small Transactions.—R. S. O.—I send what you require in your envelope, but I cannot say that they will deal in options, and certainly not on the "cover" system.

(Insurance replies are unavoidably held over till next week.)

This Prospectus has been filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, which states, amongst other things, that

The subscription list will open on Wednesday, the 6th inst., and close on or before Saturday, the 9th inst

PREMIER OIL & PIPE LINE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Incorporated under the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908.

Capital - - - £330,000.

In 330,000 Shares of £1 each, the whole of which are now being offered for subscription at par, payable as follows:—

2s.	.. .. ..	on application.
2s.	.. .. ..	on allotment.
5s.	.. .. ..	one month after allotment.
10s.	.. .. ..	two months after allotment.

The Directors and their friends have underwritten 100,000 of the above Shares, of which 50,000 will be allotted to them firm.

DIRECTORS.

EDWARD THOMAS BOXALL, Eldon Street House, Eldon Street, London, E.C. (Chairman).
CORNELIUS ROZENRAAD, 5, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.
EDWARD FUCHSBALG (Messrs Schenker and Co.), 70 and 71, Bishopsgate Street Within, London, E.C.
ALBERT VAN DEN BERGH, 82 and 83, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C. (Directors of the Premier Petroleum Company, Limited.)
HENRY VAN DEN BERGH (Director of Van den Berghs, Ltd.), 82 and 83, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

SOLICITORS.

ASHURST, MORRIS, CRISP AND CO. (for the Company), 17, Throgmorton Avenue, London, E.C.
WALTER B. STYER (for the Vendor Company), 11 and 12, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

BANKERS.

BARCLAY AND CO., LTD., 117, Leadenhall Street, 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C., and Branches.

BROKERS.

MYERS AND CO., 6, Throgmorton Street, London, E.C.
WILLIAMS DE BROE AND CO., 6, Tokenhouse Yard, London, E.C.

AUDITORS.

PRICE, WATERHOUSE AND CO., 3, Frederick's Place Old Jewry, London, E.C.

SECRETARY AND REGISTERED OFFICES.

FRANCIS S. KEANE, Eldon Street House, Eldon Street, London, E.C.

The Company has been formed to acquire from the Premier Petroleum Company, Limited, the whole of the Share Capital of the Austrian Company, Die Premier Petroleum Gesellschaft m.b.H., which holds the Leases (duly registered in Austria) of 832 acres of well-known oil-bearing land situated at Tustanowice, the oil district in Galicia. This area is in the centre of what is recognised as the best oil-producing district in the Austrian Empire.

The development of the property has been steadily continuing since the inception of the undertaking in 1908. Five wells have been sunk on the property, and there is ample room, according to the certificate of the Mining Engineer, Piotr Miaczynski (enclosed in the full prospectus) to sink about twenty-five more. Three of the five wells are now producing oil, and have actually yielded during the six months ending 31st January last an average of about 5,500 tons monthly, as shown by the Report of Messrs. Price, Waterhouse and Co. The fourth well has spouted and the boring of the fifth well is at present being proceeded with.

The plant on the premises, comprising Offices, Dwelling House, Boiler House, Machine Room, Pumping Station, Warehouses, Stables, etc., are all of a very substantial character, and are new and up to date.

The land is held in about equal areas on three leases on favourable terms, subject to Royalties on the production payable in oil. Two of the present leases expire on the 10th November, 1936, the third on the 30th October, 1924, but in the first two leases a clause provides for the right of renewal for a further 25 years, and in the third lease there is a provision enabling the Lessee to continue pumping the oil for a further period of three years after the termination of the lease, subject to a Royalty.

Last year a Union of Crude Oil Producers was established in Austria, of which the Premier Gesellschaft is a member. The Union has secured the adhesion of about 80 per cent. of the crude oil producers. It has concluded a contract with the Austrian Government for the supply of about 1,000,000 tons of oil for the use of a certain number of the State Railway Lines, and arrangements are being made to extend this to additional lines of the Austrian Railway system. This will naturally create a larger demand in Petroleum. The heavy Import Duty effectually precludes any foreign competition within the Austrian Empire.

The Company now possesses its own Pipe Line, by means of which the oil which is produced is sent straight to the railway station at Borysław, a distance of about two miles, whence there are connections with the Trunk Lines serving Austria and Central Europe. The Pipe Line of the Company is at present only connected with the Company's own property, but this might be also connected up with other Companies, and the charge made for carrying their oil would considerably augment the Company's profits.

The works are under competent management with an efficient staff, and the continuity in the working will be preserved.

Messrs. Price, Waterhouse and Co. certify as follows:—"We have extracted from the daily reports of the Manager of The Premier Petroleum Gesellschaft m.b.H., Borysław, for the six months ending 31st January, 1910, the quantities of oil produced by the three wells in Tustanowice belonging to that Company. Two of the wells have been oil-producing during the whole of the period, whilst the third has been producing since 2nd November, 1909. The quantities stated by the Manager in his daily reports to have been produced by the three wells may be summarised as follows: August, 1909, 5,950 tons; September, 1909, 5,270 tons; October, 1909, 5,180 tons; November 1909, 6,030 tons; December, 1909, 5,730 tons; January, 1910, 5,190 tons; total, 33,350 tons—or an average of 5,558 tons per month.

The accounts of the Pipe Line Company (the Galizische Karpathen Petroleum Aktien-Gesellschaft) which have been produced to us show that the following quantities of the above oil have been disposed of:—

Deliveries to the Union of Crude Oil Producers (Landesverband der Rohoelproduzenten Gesellschaft m.b.H.), as evidenced by the invoices of that Company produced to us	Tons 26,012
Deliveries to Royalty Owners and to buyers	6,866
	Tons 32,878

and that the balance of 472 tons was held by the Company at the 31st January, 1910. The ton is taken as equal to 1,000 kilogrammes.

Full Prospectuses and Forms of Application for Shares may be obtained from the Bankers, Solicitors, Brokers and the Secretary of the Company.

WEAKENED NERVES REQUIRE FOOD NOT "DRUGS" OR "TONICS."

"TAKING TONICS OR STIMULATING DRUGS, IN CASES OF NERVE TROUBLE, IS FOLLY OF THE WORST KIND. IT IS LIKE GIVING NEAT BRANDY TO A STARVING MAN. A TEMPORARY AND MISLEADING IMPROVEMENT IS EFFECTED, WHICH QUICKLY PASSES, AND LEAVES THE EXHAUSTED NERVOUS SYSTEM IN WORSE PLIGHT THAN EVER."

The above statement was made by Dr. Muller, the World Famous Nerve Specialist, and the more the question of Nervous Troubles is studied, the more convinced must one become that the statement is not only true, but is if anything an under-statement of the facts.

Tonics and stimulating drugs by the score are extensively advertised and sold as panaceas for Nervous Weakness, to the ultimate undoing of the sufferers, simply because the subject of Nerve Exhaustion, and the Natural Means of Nerve Recuperation, have hitherto been little understood.

Now, fortunately, owing to the researches of Dr. Muller and other advanced scientists, the true facts can be stated in such simple language as to be easily understood and appreciated by all.

Shortly, the Nervous System, which controls and directs the whole delicate organism of the human body, and which is easily deranged by worry, overwork, trouble, excess, or any other cause which tends to place too great a strain on the Nervous System, is composed of many millions of tiny nerve cells, and for a person to be and remain in a perfect state of Nerve Health (on which so much of the bodily health and mental powers depend), these millions of nerve cells must be regularly supplied with the one essential nutritive substance on which they depend for their sustenance.

This essential element is extracted by the blood, and supplied to the nerve cells in infinitesimal quantities from the ordinary food, and reaches the always hungry nerve cells in the form of naturally organised phosphorus; but so soon as undue strain, worry, or any other cause makes an extra demand on the consumption of this all-important substance, then the quantity extracted from one's ordinary food becomes insufficient, and Nerve Starvation and Nerve Exhaustion surely follow.

Now as to the futility of Tonics, Drugs, or Stimulants. Tonics are often useful in the case of a body debilitated by disease. True! They are useful in their right place, because they help to create a bodily appetite and sometimes aid bodily digestion. It is then that Nature gets to work and builds up the Bodily System, by the assimilation of our ordinary food. The Tonic only creates the appetite. To the simplest it will be apparent that it is useless to create an appetite and then withhold food, yet that is exactly what is done in taking drugs or tonics for Nervous Troubles.

AN APPETITE IS CREATED, FOOD IS READILY TAKEN, BUT THE NERVE CELLS ARE STILL UNABLE TO EXTRACT THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENT THEY ARE CRYING FOR, AND THE EXCESS OF ORDINARY FOOD BUT CLOGS AND POISONS THE SYSTEM.

THE MILLIONS OF NERVE CELLS ARE ALWAYS HUNGRY.

They do not require an appetite. They require food, but not ordinary food. They are crying for the one essential element which alone is of food value to them, and which they are being deprived of. Under the Tonic Treatment you create a further appetite, but supply no food. Could folly be carried to greater lengths? The inevitable result of this mistaken treatment is seen daily in the ever-increasing army of Neurasthenic wrecks; in the increasing number of sufferers from Neuralgia, Insomnia, Brain Fag, Debility, Weakness, Loss of Mental Power, and the hundred and one other forms by which an exhausted and starved Nervous System cries aloud for Nourishment—cries for Nerve Food, not Drugs.

WHAT IS DR. MULLER'S NUTRIENT?

Dr. Muller, whose name will be known to all, has produced an exact counterpart of the essential Nutrient of which the Nerve Cells are composed, and on which alone they can be nourished, and further by a special process of his own, has rendered this substance easily assimilable through the blood into the Nervous System; thus by Natural Means feeding, revitalising, and rebuilding the exhausted Nerve Cells to a state of robust and vigorous Nerve Health. There is still something, if possible of almost more importance, which his now famous Nerve Nutrient does for suffering mankind. While enriching the Blood, in its process of manufacturing the essential element for the sustenance of the Nerve Cells, it so encourages, increases, and strengthens the all-important White Corpuscles of the Blood (those ever-ready Soldiers, who when the Blood is in a state of Health, are always on guard to fight and destroy harmful disease germs continually entering the system), that after a course of Dr. Muller's Nutrient one becomes almost practically immune from attack by these harmful germs. Dr. Muller's Nutrient therefore serves a treble purpose. It enriches the Blood, renders liability to attack from the insidious enemy of disease germs almost non-existent, and it builds, by Natural Means, strong and Healthy Nervous Systems.

HOW THE ENGLISH COMPANY, HAVING THE SOLE ENGLISH AND COLONIAL RIGHTS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF DR. MULLER'S NUTRIENT, WILL PROVE THESE STATEMENTS.

You are asked to be the sole judge of the correctness of these statements, and entirely at our cost. Just write to the address below, enclosing one penny stamp only for postage, mentioning this paper, and you will receive in a plain sealed envelope, post paid:—

1. DR. MULLER'S WONDERFULLY ENLIGHTENING BOOK ON THE NERVOUS SYSTEM, PUBLISHED AT 1s., AND APTLY CALLED "THE WAY TO HEALTH." THIS BOOK IS PRINTED IN TWO COLOURS THROUGHOUT, AND CONTAINS, IN NON-TECHNICAL LANGUAGE, THE WHOLE THEORY OF NERVE EXHAUSTION, ITS CAUSE AND REMEDY. IT IS PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED IN COLOURS, WITH DIAGRAMS SPECIALLY DRAWN FOR THIS WORK.

2. DR. MULLER'S LATEST BROCHURE (TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH) ON "THE PROLONGATION OF LIFE, WITH HINTS ON DIET."

3. A TRIAL BOX OF DR. MULLER'S NERVE NUTRIENT.

All the above will be sent you absolutely free of cost, the penny stamp simply defraying the postage.

HOW WE PROVE OUR FAITH.

Any member of the Medical Profession, in active practice, sending his card will be supplied post free with a large box of Dr. Muller's Nutrient for experimental purposes, *together with the complete formula* Never before in the whole history of preparations offered to the public has such an offer been made to the Medical Profession. If we were not perfectly confident that the preparation is all we clam for it, such an offer as this would be indeed an impossibility. The very fact of it being made and carried out proves beyond a shadow of doubt that Dr. Muller's Nutrient is exactly what it is claimed to be—a true and easily assimilable food for exhausted nerves.

Nervous trouble shows itself in numerous ways, of which the following are some of the manifestations:—

Sleeplessness.	*Sweating without cause.*
Pains at Small of Back or in Body.	*Morbid Fears.*
Noises in Ears and Head.	*Failure of Memory.*
Dizziness.	*Specks before the Eyes.*
Melancholia.	*Lassitude.*
Dislike for Physical or Mental Effort.	*Excessive Timidity.*
Fear of Insanity.	*Inability to Concentrate the Mind.*

If you have any of the above symptoms or your Nervous System is in any way deranged, you should in your own interests, write at once, enclosing one stamp and mentioning this paper, when convincing proof will be sent you that you can quickly rid yourself of all nerve illness, and you will be able to see how pleasant, and free from all difficulties in taking, is this wonderful Nutrient Treatment. If you remain a Nerve Sufferer when such sure and pleasant means are to hand the fault will be entirely yours. The remedy under Scientific Nerve Nutrition is a positive fact, whatever disappointments you may have had in the past from misleading Tonic Preparations, Dr. Muller's Nutrient is not a tonic, not a drug, not a stimulant, but is just as surely a food and builder-up of strong and healthy Nerve Cells, and acts in just the same natural way on the Nervous System as good, easily digestible food would act on a starved and emaciated body. Neither want Drugs, but food—food which they can assimilate.

Write (enclosing one stamp) to

70B Dr. MULLER'S LABORATORIES,
61, New Oxford Street, London.

AMONG THE LAWYERS.

IS THERE A COURT OF CHANCERY?

Few people are aware that the Court of Chancery was in 1653 actually abolished by a formal Resolution of Parliament—for "Parliament" was the title arrogated to itself by the Convention summoned by Cromwell just after he forcibly put an end to the sitting of the Long Parliament. The Journals state that on August 5th, 1653, "The House took into consideration the business of the High Court of Chancery, and resolved that the same be forthwith taken away, and a Bill was ordered to be brought in for that purpose." An interesting summary of the debate on this occasion is given in a pamphlet (now very rare), entitled "An Exact Relation of the Proceedings and Transactions of the Parliament which begun July 4th, 1653. By a Member thereof." The anonymous author informs "That in the course of the debate the Court of Chancery was called, by some Members, the greatest grievance in the nation: others said, That for dilatoriness, chargeableness, and a faculty of bleeding the people in the purse-vein, even to their utter perishing and undoing, that Court might compare with, if not surpass, any Court in the world: That it was confidently affirmed by knowing gentlemen of worth, that there were depending in that Court 23,000 causes, some of which had been there depending 5, some 10, some 20, some 30 years, and more: That there had been spent therein many thousands of pounds, to the ruin, nay, utter undoing, of many families: That no ship almost that sailed in the sea of the law, but first or last put into that port; and, if they made any considerable stay there, they suffered so much loss, that the remedy was as bad as the disease: That what was ordered one day was contradicted the next, so as in some causes there had been 500 orders and more: That when the purses of clients began to be empty, and their spirits were a little cooled, then by a reference to some gentlemen in the country, the cause so long depending, at so great a charge, came to be ended; so that some Members did not stick to term the Chancery a mystery of wickedness, and a standing cheat. And that, in short, so many horrible things were affirmed of it, that those who were, or had a mind to be, advocates for it, had little to say on the behalf of it; and so, at the end of one day's debate, the Question being put, it was voted down." This unanimity of the House is confirmed by the Journals; for they record that "The Resolution for abolishing the Court of Chancery passed without any Division." Perhaps some learned reader will tell us whether the Court, thus summarily extinguished by Cromwell's Puritans, was ever resurrected, and if so, when.

A JOURNALISTIC RIP VAN WINKLE.

It is astonishing what nonsense even well-informed newspapers will indulge in at times when discussing public affairs and attacking political opponents. *Fairplay*, which is mainly concerned with shipping affairs, is not only one of the most successful, but in its way is one of the ablest of weekly newspapers, and yet we find it criticising the appointment of Sir Samuel Evans to the Presidency of the Admiralty and Divorce Court in a way that would discredit a schoolboy. The appointment was by no means an ideal one, and if *Fairplay* had condemned the wretched system which puts a man who knows nothing whatever about Admiralty affairs at the head of the Admiralty Court no intelligent and unprejudiced man would have dissented, but this is how *Fairplay* goes to work to express its disapproval:—

> The Presidency became vacant and was at once conferred on Sir Samuel Evans, a well-known, and, I believe, capable barrister, hailing from Wales and member for a Welsh constituency, but unknown in the Divorce Court. Naturally, of all the sea maws around waiting with open beaks, he was the bird entitled to the "fish-guts," and he got them. But what about Mr. Bargrave Deane? That gentleman has practised in the Divorce Court all his time, and is eminently fitted by experience and observation for the vacant post. But he has never gone in for politics, and that being so he has to stand aside and see a gentleman from Wales step over his head, and if he possessed the wisdom of Solomon the result would have been the same.

The extract we have quoted is taken from the editorial notes of *Fairplay*, and we are bound to assume from it that the writer is unaware that "Mr." Bargrave Deane, as he calls him, was made a judge of the Admiralty Court five years ago, and continues to sit there as Sir Henry Bargrave Deane, much to his own credit and to the satisfaction of the public.

The "Aero"
FOLDING FELT

The Lightest Hat of its kind in the whole World—weighing only 1¼ Ounces.

. . It is a hat which should form part of the wardrobe of all men who value a combination of Comfort and Good Style. Primarily intended for Négligé Wear—it serves that purpose through and beyond.

. . For Evening Wear . . Garden Wear . . Golf . . Cycling . . Tennis . . Boating—for all but strictly formal occasions—this hat is ideal in every respect

. . Adaptability is a strong feature of the "Aero." Being extremely pliable, it can be shaped by the wearer to suit his face, his taste, or the occasion—the possible shapes being almost endless in variety.

. . It is made of a good quality Felt, so soft and pliable that the hat can be folded and put into one's pocket. It is practically waterproof; heavy rain might penetrate it, but would not injure it. It is made in the following colours:—Dark Green, Light Green, Brown, Drab, Grey Black, and White

PRICE 4/6 Post Free.

. . This hat can be obtained from any of our branches except the Gracechurch Street one, or Post free from our Mail Order Dept., at 388, Strand. In ordering by post, please state the size of hat usually worn, and the colour required. Remittance must accompany all orders, but the hat will be exchanged if not approved, or the money refunded. Please mention "John Bull."

Horne
BROTHERS

HATTERS & OUTFITTERS,
Central Establishment and Mail Order Dept.,
388, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
. . . and Branches Throughout London . . .

THE KERAIA RUBBER ESTATES, LIMITED.

With a capital of £100,000, in 400,000 Ordinary shares of 5s. each, this Company has been formed to acquire, develop and work important rubber forest areas, situate in the district of Sefwhi, Ashanti, British West Africa, and connected by Government Roads with Kumase, the capital. The Company acquires all the interests of the lessees (other than the mineral rights) upon very favourable terms, which are set out in the full Prospectus. The extent of the properties is 12,480 acres, with the right to acquire a further 16,320 acres. The importance of West Africa as a Rubber producing country is amply illustrated by the fact that the output for 1908 was 14,000 tons, or 31,360,000lbs., and it is estimated that the output for 1909 will be found to have been 15,500 tons, or 34,720,000lbs. (*vide The Financial Times*, February 25th, 1910). The property has been reported upon under date of February 25th, 1910, by Mr. J. H. McGarry, whose knowledge of Rubber properties acquired in Africa, Brazil, and the Federated Malay States, is extensive, and from this Report it appears that "Funtumia" (Kixia Africana), "Ficus Elastica," and "Llandolphia" are the best known trees and vines that abound upon the properties. The Rubber which Mr. McGarry collected exhibited excellent properties of elasticity and tenacity, and he states that owing to the thickness of the forest it would take many months to ensure a complete estimate, but that there are at least 300,000 fully grown Rubber trees awaiting tapping without taking the vines into account. The vines are, however, valuable, as they yield Rubber of good quality, and by the aid of modern machinery, and the cutting down of the vines which reproduce themselves, practically the whole of the latex can be obtained therefrom. This was formerly considered impossible. Mr. McGarry states that all the trees are in a very healthy condition, and are ready for tapping, and he estimates the trees will yield from 5 to 7lbs. each; the Rubber coming from the neighbouring districts, although not very well collected, fetches about 4s. 9d. to 5s. 6d. per lb. on the European markets. The market price of Funtumia Elastica Rubber from Mabira, being the species found on these properties, is above 8s. per lb. Mr. McGarry in his Report states that at least 2½lbs. of Rubber per tree yearly will be collected, and that 100,000 trees could be tapped the first year, 150,000 the second year, and 200,000 the third year, and with a further increase thereafter. There is no export duty on Rubber.

The Directors are highly influential, and most of them are specially connected with the rubber industry. Their names are as follows:—Jack Thomas Grein, Consul of Liberia; William Henry Peach, J.P. (Chairman Malay Rubber Planters, Limited); Frank William Marshall (Messrs. Jules Karpeles and Co.); John Edward McCabe (Messrs. Bird and Co., Calcutta); Hamilton R. Spence (late Acting Chief Conservator of Forests, Ceylon). The Secretary is Mr. Charles H. Lawson, F.C.I.S., F.A.A., and the offices 4, London Wall Buildings, E.C.

According to the prospectus estimates, the profit on the sale of rubber at 3s. would be for the first year £21,875, for the second year £32,812, and for the third year £43,750, while, of course, the value of rubber is now much higher. Mr. McGarry also estimates that the Company should receive £7,500 per annum profit from the sale of mahogany and £3,000 per annum from the sale of Gum Copal. He also states that there are vast quantities of tropical fibres, Jute and Ramie, upon the property. The Directors, however, have only estimated a total of £3,000 per annum from all these sources, and on that basis they figure out net revenues and profits for the first year 19 per cent., for the second year 30 per cent., and for the third year 41 per cent. 180,000 shares have been offered for subscription at par to the shareholders, and the Vendors have stipulated that at least 140,000 shares should be allotted to them as fully paid in part satisfaction of the purchase price, leaving, however, ample money for working capital.

Mr. J. Dawson, who has had many years' experience in West Africa, confirms Mr. McGarry's Report under date of February 28th, 1910. The Directors have also had an independent Report, dated March 16th, 1910, made by Mr. E. G. Alleyn, who has had an extensive experience on the West Coast of Africa, and is acquainted with the properties acquired by this Company, and he states that he has carefully read Mr. McGarry's Report, and from his eperience, as stated in his Report, he is in a position to confirm it.

Messrs. Jules Karpeles and Co., of 21, Mincing Lane, E.C., write that:—

"The three samples marked A, described as 'Tree Rubber of the Funtumia Elastica,' are worth 4s. 6d., 5s. 3d., and 5s. 6d. per lb. respectively in the present market, and these qualities would, they consider, be readily saleable here and/or in Liverpool."

We understand the issue has been subscribed several times over, and the shares are quoted at seven shillings premium.

"I am now so thoroughly well that it seems as if years had been taken off my age."

Mrs. E. Clayton of Linford, near Stanford-le-Hope, Essex, writes

"I must tell you what wonderful things Guy's Tonic has done for "me. For years I have been a sufferer from acute Indigestion, and "in that time I tried many other medicines without success. I had "given up hope, until a friend recommended me to take Guy's Tonic. "The first bottle proved most beneficial; two bottles effected an "absolute cure. I am now, thanks to Guy's Tonic, so thoroughly "well that it seems as if years had been taken off my age."

¶ Thousands of Testimonials prove that Guy's Tonic Treatment is an absolute Cure for Indigestion, Nervousness, and Debility. It is invaluable in Liver Troubles, and builds up the general Health and Strength.

Will you try Guy's Tonic if we send it Free?

¶ A Free Guy's Tonic Health-Help Outfit will be forwarded, privately packed and carriage paid, to every sufferer who makes use of the Coupon, as directed.

Contents:—

1. A Bottle of the World-famed Guy's Tonic.
2. A supply of Guy's Fruit Pills for the cure of Constipation.
3. A personal Letter of Instruction regarding the complete Guy's Tonic Treatment.
4. Two Health-Aid Booklets.

Write at once if you are troubled with any of the following forms of Ill-Health

Indigestion.	Palpitation.	Weak Kidneys.
Flatulence.	Constipation.	Anæmia.
Coated Tongue.	Biliousness.	Rheumatism.
Poor Appetite.	Sick Headache.	Nerve Weakness.
Pain after Food.	Want of Energy.	Depression.
Neuralgia.	Backache.	Debility.

Post this Coupon

50

Name .....

Address .....

.....

FREE

desires the Free Guy's Tonic Outfit as offered in "John Bull."

Post Coupon, when filled in, to Guy's Tonic Company, 12, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W. Kindly include Three Penny Stamps, to defray cost of postage of Free Guy's Tonic Outfit.

THE JOHN BULL LEAGUE.

President—Horatio Bottomley, Esq., M.P.

Objects: To stamp out Cant and Self-Righteousness; to abolish Cranks and Killjoys; to create a robust and self-reliant Public Opinion; and to promote a Common Sense, Business Government for a Common Sense, Business People.

OUR SMOKING CONCERT.

The Spring campaign will be inaugurated to-morrow (Friday) night by a Grand Smoking Concert at the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant. As will be seen by a reference to the announcement on the first page of this issue, many famous artistes have been secured (by kind permission of their respective managers), and no effort will be spared to make the function a great success. Twenty-six tables, each accommodating ten persons, have been reserved, tickets for which are 2s. 6d., admission to the remainder of the hall being 1s. The proceedings will commence punctually at 8 o'clock by the singing of the John Bull League Song by Mr. Leo Stormont, who achieved such a success at the Albert Hall meeting. Tickets can be obtained at the offices of the League, 67, Long Acre, W.C., but in view of the necessarily limited number, immediate application is necessary. All are welcome, whether members of the League or not.

THE PORTSMOUTH MEETING.

Great interest is being aroused in the first Provincial meeting of the campaign at Portsmouth Town Hall on Friday of next week, the 15th inst., and in view of the President's recent activity in the House of Commons in connection with Naval matters, it is safe to predict as great a success as that which has attended the meetings in other parts of the country. The League has been fortunate enough to again secure the services of Mr. Leo Stormont for the rendering of the John Bull League Song, and prior to the commencement of the proceedings a Recital on the great organ, which is one of the finest in the Kingdom, will be given. This is the first meeting, outside London, which has been held in the South of England, and has been arranged in response to the demand from the members of the League in this district for a visit from the President. No tickets will be issued and admission will be free to all.

The next Provincial meeting takes place at the Albert Hall, Sheffield, on the following Friday, April 22nd. From the first Sheffield has been one of the most enthusiastic branches of the League, and the President may be assured of a hearty Yorkshire welcome.

LIST OF LOCAL SECRETARIES.

Anerley	W. H. Jefferis, 48, Croydon Road.
Battersea, S.W. ..	H. Frost, 71, Plough Road.
Blackheath	T. Callaway, 26, Montpelier Vale.
Brondesbury	A. M. Benscher, 6, Burton Road.
Camberwell	T. Simberg, 80, Boyson Road.
Clapham Junction, S.W.	W. A. Allen, 4, Ashness Road.
Clapton Park, N.E. ..	H. R. Payne, 174, Rushmore Road.
Deptford	W. T. Payne, 193, Childere Street.
Enfield	F. N. Geard, The Limes, Chaseside.
Fulham, S.W.	F. C. Monk, 9, Rosaville Road.
Forest Gate	J. R. Houston, 66, Neville Road.
Hackney, S.	W. E. Blakeley, Elm Lodge, Gascoyne Road.
Hendon, W.	E. J. Gordon-Stevens, Homeleigh, Stanley Rd.
Highgate	F. K. Douglas, "Lyndale House," The Bank.
Romford	W. Trimm, 57, Manor Road.
Stoke Newington ..	S. T. Prechner, 2, Martaban Road, Manor Rd.
Victoria Park, N.E. ..	A. H. Carstairs, 39, Cawley Road.
West Ealing, W. ..	H. Ballard, 95, Leighton Road. W.
West Kensington ..	John Blyth, 73, May Street.
Wimbledon	M. Scarborough, 3, Marguerite Villas.
Abergavenny	Mrs. F. M. Place, 72, Park Street.
Aldershot	C. Perry, 99, Waterloo Road.
Ashby-de-la-Zouch ..	A. W. Drewry, 25, Sonisby Road.
Banff, N.B.	A. R. H. Haslam, 2, Sandyhill Road.
Barrow-in-Furness ..	G. E. Wright, 37, Settle Street.
Barry Dock	R. Campbell, 242, Holton Road.
Bedford	E. Trustam, 44, Castle Road.
Birmingham	E. R. Hodgkinson, Gravelly Hill, Erdington.
,, Central	Chas. L. Kay, 155, Somerville Road.
,, Acocks Green ..	A. Ashton, Homelia, Arden Road.
,, Aston & Witton ..	A. Rowe, 219, Trinity Road.
,, Bordesley Green	C. T. Wilson, 24, St. Benedict's Rd., Small Heath.
,, Erdington and Lozells	E. H. Hodgkinson, 98, Hunton Road, Gravelly Hill. Asst. Sec., A. R. Tye, 87, Hillaries Rd.
,, Handsworth and Smethwick ..	Frank Round, 92, Whateley Road. Asst. Sec. W. G. Mason, The Hermitage Beardwood.
,, King's Heath ..	A. T. Taylor, 8, Woodfield Road.
,, Small Heath ..	J. Parker Crees, 113, Aubrey Road.
,, Sparkhill and Balsall Heath	J. S. Savage, 82, Beach Road.
,, Yardley	F. Hockenhull, 226, Banks Road, Small Heath.
Bournemouth	E. Goeschalk, "Craigruie," Upper Terrace Rd.
Brecknock	A. T. Davies, Danebury, Builth Wells.
Bridlington	W. A. Young, 6, Clarence Terrace.
Bristol	H. J. Cattell, West Hill, Portishead.
,, ...	C. A. Perry, 5, Laurel Terrace, Yatton.
Bristol	H. H. Alton, Craigmoor, 28, Foycote Road
,, ...	F. H. Burgess, Glendenes, Hampstead Road, Brislington.
,, ...	A. W. Godfrey, Canada House, Baldwin Street.
Burnham	Frank Rowland, Bristol House.
Burnley	Harling Bennett, 162, Accrington Road.
Cambridge	A. Cox, Marsh.
Cardiff	F. W. Blower, 6 and 7, St. John's Square.
Caterham	E. J. Kemp, 54, Saylum Road.
Chatham	J. Long, 11, Meeting House Lane.
Chesterfield	H. O. Brown, The Old Rectory, Staveley.
Colchester	A. T. Ambrose, Garness Villa, Priory Grove.
Consett	W. Atthill, 14, Harlington Street.
Cornwall	C. G. Greene, 52, Ford's Row, Redruth.
Coventry	F. Hall, 2, Summer Terrace, Queen Victoria Rd.
,, ...	P. Russell, Berkswell.
Cranleigh (Surrey) ..	P. W. Fuller, Ewhurst Road.
Deal	Alfred E. Rowland, Yew Tree Inn, Mill Road.
Derby	G. W. Borrill, 192, Almond Street.
Devon	G. B. Painter, Nut Tree House, Higher Brixham
Dublin	Herbert Malley, 18, Nassau Street.
Dumbarton, N.B. ..	A. Burton, 1, Chapelton Gardens.
Dundee	D. Billingall, 69, Dens Road.
Eastbourne	W. C. Palmer, 15, Beltmore Road.
East Worthing ..	G. C. Clark, Merrion, Shakespeare Road.
Edinburgh	A. Macdonald-Peddie, 11, Murrayfield Place, Murrayfield.
Elgin	Geo. Ross, Achnacoille, Bishopsmill.
Elland	Fred Gill, 15, Park Road.
Fleetwood	Jack Johns, Galloway Road.
Folkestone	W. J. Atkins, 6, Bonsor Road.
Galashiels	P. L. Birnie, 3, Larchbank Street.
Gateshead-on-Tyne ..	S. W. Taylor, 79, Rodsley Avenue.
Glamorgan	E. P. Jones, 7, Treharne Terrace, Treharris.
,, ...	D. E. Harris, 6, Lycsha St., Ystrad, Rhondda.
Glasgow	E. A. Burton, 269, Parliamentary Road.
Gloucester	F. E. King, Rosedale House, Minsterworth.
Great Grimsby ..	E. George, 121, Oxford Street, New Clee.
Great Yarmouth ..	A. F. Fitch, Walpole Road.
Grimsby	A. Percy Foster, Trafalgar House, Hainton Avenue.
Herts	E. Smith, Central Hotel, Letchworth.
High Wycombe ..	George White, White Lion, Crendon Street.
Horsham	F. W. Sieberg, 10, Market Square.
Hove	D. W. J. North, 30, Wolstonbury Road.
Inverness	Wm. Lyon, the Highland Railway, Accountant's Department.
Ipswich	E. A. Rands, "Bon Accord," Broomhill Road.
Kingston-on-Thames ..	A. H. Howard, 37, Fairfield South.
Leeds	E. A. Gresham, Barwick-in-Elmet.
Leicester	Venice Ewart-Beard, The Hermitage, Coalville.
Lincoln	W. Whiting, 14, Montague Street.
Liverpool	J. Holden-Berry, Palace Chambers, 21, Victoria Street.
Loftus (Yorks.) ..	T. Smithson, 72, High Street.
Louth	Fred. Whitworth, 26, Lincoln Walk.
Maidstone	E. A. Tilby, Tonbridge Road.
Manchester	E. J. Linsdell, 9, Garden Street, Union Street,
,, ...	W. P. Harkins, 39, Union St., Higher Ardwick.
,, ...	P. Wardle, 5, Woodland Road, Gorton.
,, ...	E. Doren, 18, Hutchin Street, Phillips Park.
,,	O. K. Shingler, 410, Abbey Hey Lane, Gorton.
Middlesbrough ..	John Ross, 114, Linthorpe Road.
Murrayfield	A. McDonald, 11, Murrayfield Place.
Neath	W. J. Sharman, 58, London Road.
Newcastle-on-Tyne ..	W. H. Rice, 51, Dilston Road.
,, ...	W. Balmer, Jun., 43, Mundella Terrace.
Northampton	S. J. Badger, 45, Derby Road.
Norwich	S. H. Robinson, 35, St. Philips Road.
Nottingham: Beeston	P. Daine, 69, Wollaton Road.
,, Sherwood ..	Mrs. Lydia Compton, 80, Victoria Road.
Peebles	E. W. Thiem, Hotel Hydropathic.
Penarth	H. W. Newman, 20, Dock Road.
Penzance	G. R. Glasson, Gulval Cross.
Portobello	W. G. Barnett, 173, High Street.
Portsmouth	H. Twinbull, Hospital, Hilsea.
Ramsgate	R. V. Crow, 39, Harbour Street.
Reading	J. Stanley Jennings, 20, Lincoln Road.
Redhill, Surrey ..	J. Derbyshire, 29, Clarendon Road.
Redruth	C. G. Greene, 52, Ford's Row.
Reigate	W. Moore, "Walcot," Beaufort Road.
Rochdale	H. C. Holt, Buersill Avenue.
Roley (Yorks) ..	J. D. Keating, "Richmond."
Saltcoats	Alec. Beckett, Silverse House.
Sheffield	B. H. Tubbs, 53, Idsworth Road, Picksmoor.
,, ...	E. Jennings, 106, Holme Lane, Hillsbro'.
,, ...	F. Wharton, 74, Morpeth Street.
Silby	F. W. Bloore, Station House.
Southampton	Harry Venton, "Airdrie," 25, Castle Street.
Stafford	Edwin Arnott, 90, Peel Terrace.
Stockton-on-Tees ..	J. W. Mann, Billingham (near).
Surrey	P. W. Fuller, Ewhurst Road, Cranleigh.
Sutton, Surrey ..	R. Younghusband, "Bassa," Parkhurst Road.
Swindon, Wilts. ..	H. F. Crawley, Linden Cottage, 44, Prospect Hill.
Tamworth	Captain P. Carson, Millfield House.
Taunton	S. Bradbury, care of 3, Bridge Street.
Twyford, Berks. ..	M. J. Jarvis, Solicitor.
,, ...	H. Sheridan Bickers, Knowle Hill.
Walsall	F. Levinge, Braco Street.
Westcliff-on-Sea ..	W. M. Maitland, St. Elmo, Beedwell Avenue.
West Drayton ..	W. F. Nicholson, Brambledene, Brandville Road.
Weston-super-Mare ..	H. Jones, 30, St. James' Street.
West Worthing ..	C. C. Clark, "Merrion," Shakespeare Road.
Windsor	S. Vincent, Woodbine Cottage.
Wisbech	N. S. Davidson, care of Mr. Oldman, Chemist.
Wolverhampton ..	H. E. Whitehouse, Old Windmill House.
Worcester	F. Lewis, 148, Enville Street, Stourbridge.
Yorks	Turton Smithson, 72, High Street, Loftus.

Great New Plan whereby our Readers can Co-operate for Mutual Profit.

Easy Work and Liberal Remuneration For Corresponding Secretaries of The Pelman School of Memory.

Every Reader Eligible An Unique Opportunity.

As announced editorially last week, the world-famous Pelman School has inaugurated a special scheme which affords every student an opportunity of acting as a Corresponding Secretary to the School and receiving liberal remuneration for slight services.

No special qualifications are necessary. Every student can become a Corresponding Secretary, and every one of our readers can become a student. The course of training is short, easy, and intensely interesting. Anyone can master it in a few weeks, and everyone can benefit by it—the miner as well as the M.P.; the clerk and the K.C.; the factory hand and the financier; the shop assistant and the scientist; the tradesman, the teacher, the clergyman, the doctor, the exam candidate, the barrister, the business man—in short, men and women in every occupation do more and better work with less effort and, consequently, rise to higher positions as a result of the Pelman System of Memory Training, as thousands of pupils in all parts of the world have freely testified. The Pelman School has always relied mainly on recommendations for new pupils, and the object of the scheme now instituted is to still further encourage pupils to introduce the school to their friends by giving liberal remuneration for every enrolment thus secured.

This plan not only constitutes the finest form of advertisement, but gives every student an opportunity of earning, with very little trouble, the whole initial fee and a considerable addition to his, or her, income—quite apart from the enormous gain in mental power and efficiency (and consequent increase in earning power) he will derive from the Course.

Your work as Corresponding Secretary is quite easy. You simply bring the Pelman School to the notice of as many people as possible, and receive a handsome bonus for every student enrolled by your efforts. This does not mean that you make yourself a nuisance to your friends, but simply that you take advantage of the innumerable opportunities you have every day of pointing out the benefits of a well trained and accurate memory. You will thus be doing your friends a service.

The experience of thousands of Pelman pupils shows that people are only too anxious to enrol on the recommendation of someone they know who has actually experienced the advantages of the training. One pupil alone enrolled hundreds. Many others secure hundreds of enrolments without making any special effort.

The field is so enormous, the Course is so beneficial to everyone—whatever his, or her, position—that there is ample scope for Corresponding Secretaries to continually enrol new pupils to the advantage of all concerned.

Once you realise the importance of developing your natural memory on the simple and scientific lines of the Pelman System, you will not hesitate to take the Course, and when you have completed it you will be enthusiastic in its praise.

It is difficult to give anything like an adequate idea of the immense value of a really good memory. Upon memory depends your present position and future prospects. Memory is the keystone of success—the foundation of all knowledge. It is memory alone which makes learning and experience of any value. It is memory alone which enables you to utilise and develop your abilities to the full in whatever direction they may lie.

You can do nothing well at the first attempt. Every attempt is no better than the first unless you remember, and can therefore profit by, the previous attempts. Thus on memory depends your efficiency and the extent of your salary. Memory means power the Pelman System doubles your natural memory. It completely cures mind-wandering and brain fag.

It enables you to concentrate your thoughts to think clearly and quickly; to grasp complicated details; to detect weak points in an argument; to quote facts and figures readily; to express your thoughts lucidly, and to do your work better and more easily.

It is impossible to describe in this short space exactly how much the Pelman System would benefit you. You are, however, invited to write for the Pelman booklet, which gives full particulars of the Course, together with the opinions of thousands of satisfied pupils and the editors of leading journals throughout the world.

Send for this booklet to-day. Do not put it off till to-morrow, for to-morrow never comes. Together with the booklet will be sent you full particulars of the plan by which you can become a Corresponding Secretary—a plan which you should be fully acquainted with before coming to a definite decision.

From "John Bull," April 2nd, 1910.

"We have no hesitation whatever in advising readers to write to the Secretary of the Pelman School, 15, Wenham House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C., for full particulars. Those who have been through the course, and are convinced of its utility—and we have never heard of a dissatisfied student—are cordially invited to take up the Corresponding Secretaryships; new pupils enrolling now also have the same privilege."

Use Coupon or Send Postcard,

To the Secretary,
PELMAN SCHOOL OF MEMORY,
15, Wenham House, Bloomsbury St., London, W.C.

Please send Free Booklet and particulars of special offer.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

OUR SPECIAL POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

By Richard Morton.

(Mr. Morton satirises recent Police Court proceedings.)

AMUSING ADVENTURES OF A PRETTY YOUNG LADY.

Ann Dante, seventeen years of age, described as a composer of grand opera, residing at Alto Terrace, Covent Garden, appeared before Mr. Peter Turner, at the West End Court, to answer a charge of attempting to obtain a sum of £6 by means of a worthless cheque from Mrs. Sarah Lunn, baker and confectioner, of Wholemeal Street.

Mr. Speke Firmer defended.

Mr. Flimsy St. Ledger, manager of the local branch of the London Discounty and Shoreditch Bank, said that just before time to put up the shutters on Saturday afternoon, the young lady called at the bank and was shown into his private office. She said she had an appointment there to meet her fairy godmother, the Duchess of Dunnohoo, who was coming with her lord chamberlain to open an account for her. The chamberlain was to pay in a few thousands to start with, and a lot more as time rolled on. The manager of the Bank of England and the Chancellor of the Exchequer were to be her references. Witness, of course, believed her; so to save her time and his he gave her the signature book to sign, and she wrote her name down as the Lady Ermyntrude, Park Lane. She was also quite ready to sign an order for a cheque-book, and then, as neither the duchess nor her chamberlain had put in an appearance, he handed her the cheque-book. As luck would have it, she did not ask for any money, so he had not given her any.

You say she signed her name as Lady Ermyntrude, Park Lane. Don't you know that a titled person never includes that title in the signature? Yes, he knew that.

Are you aware there is no such name in the Peerage? No; he had not looked to see.

Mr. Firmer: You were deceived by a woman.

The police evidence proved that the accused had drawn sixteen cheques and filled them up for various amounts, obtaining cash for them from tradespeople. When caught, she was trying to cash the cheque which was the subject of the present charge.

Mr. Speke Firmer said his client was a very clever girl, who wished to lead a life of adventure, something like the heroines of grand opera, whose lives she put into music.

Magistrate: I see she is described as a composer. Is she not rather young for that?

Mr. Firmer said yes. He did not know that she had composed anything, but the description was her own idea, and it made a good line for the papers anyhow. She was a romantic girl, and said something told her to go to the bank, and when she got the cheque-book she was so surprised that she had to start using it. And she was more surprised still, she said, in her artlessness and innocence, when they came and arrested her.

The magistrate said he was glad to hear that. She had committed a very considerable commercial fraud, but she was so young and so romantic that he would bind her over in the sum of five pounds to come up for judgment if called upon within twelve months.

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST AN OLD CLERK.

John Jones, an old clerk, on being charged with embezzling two pounds, the money of his employer, pleaded guilty, but said the amount had since been repaid by his friends.

Magistrate (to prosecutor): And did you accept the money?

Prosecutor: Yes.

Magistrate: It looks like compounding a felony, and I have a good mind to send the papers to the Public Prosecutor. Six weeks.

BOOTS-BY-POST

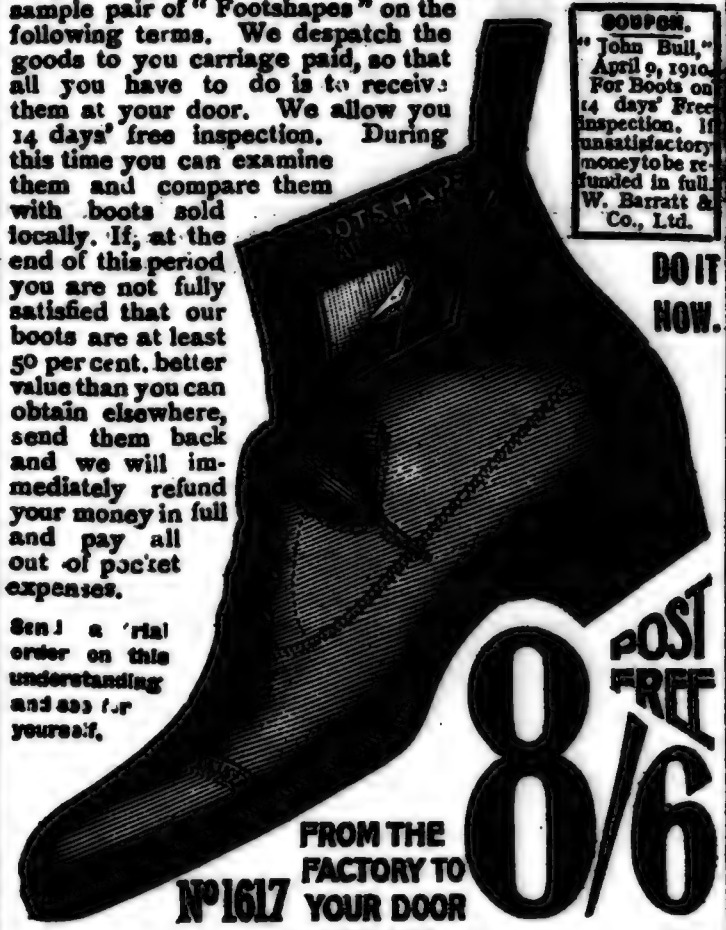
THE METHOD OF BOOT-BUYING FOR SHREWD BUSINESS MEN.

To every reader of "John Bull" sending us the attached coupon, together with P.O. value 8/6, we will forward a sample pair of "Footshapes" on the following terms. We despatch the goods to you carriage paid, so that all you have to do is to receive them at your door. We allow you 14 days' free inspection. During this time you can examine them and compare them with boots sold locally. If, at the end of this period you are not fully satisfied that our boots are at least 50 per cent. better value than you can obtain elsewhere, send them back and we will immediately refund your money in full and pay all out-of-pocket expenses.

Send a trial order on this understanding and see for yourself.

COUPON. "John Bull," April 9, 1910. For Boots on 14 days' Free inspection. If unsatisfactory money to be refunded in full. W. Barratt & Co., Ltd.

DO IT NOW.



POST FREE 8/6

FROM THE FACTORY TO YOUR DOOR

No 1617

DESCRIPTIONS.

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"Another Estate comprises an area of about 8,620 acres of virgin forest, estimated to contain over 25,000 fully grown rubber trees, ready to be tapped at once. This work can be proceeded with immediately. All these trees are the true Hevea Brazilliensis.

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"Produce.—A considerable area of these Estates has been cleared and planted with sugar cane, mandioca, rice, maize, etc., for all of which or their products there is a ready sale in Para.

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"Transport.—The railway runs through one of the Estates, with a railway station on the property. There is also the River Taua passing through the St. Antonio Estate (on the banks of which a substantial wharf, with crane, etc., has been built and is included in the purchase), navigable by sailing barges belonging to the Estate and used for transport to and from the city of Para.

"Titles.—All the Estates are freehold, and there are no Government or other restrictions whatsoever on the titles.

"Labour.—Labour is plentiful and cheap.

"Estimated Profits.—I estimate, with a working capital of, say, £20,000, and after allowing for the export duty of 2½ per cent., profits will be made as follows:—

Lbs. of Rubber.	At lb. net.	From other sources.		Total.
1910-11.— 38,500	2s.	£3,850.	£4,000	£7,850 = 10½ p.c.
1911-12.— 73,000	2s.	£7,300.	£4,000	£11,300 = 15 p.c.
1912-13.—119,000	2s.	£11,900.	£5,000	£16,900 = 22½ p.c.
1913-14.—159,000	2s. 6d.	£11,925.	£5,000	£16,925 = 22½ p.c.
1914-15.—245,000	2s. 6d.	£18,375.	£6,000	£24,375 = 32½ p.c.
1915-16.—315,000	2s.	£15,750.	£6,000	£21,750 = 29 p.c.
1916-17.—540,000	2s.	£27,000.	£6,000	£33,000 = 44 p.c.

On the total capital of the Company.

"The above estimates of profit are based upon the price of rubber at 4s. 6d. per lb. for the years 1910/1913; 4s. per lb. 1913/1915; and 3s. 6d. per lb. 1915-1917.

"Markets, Etc.—There is always a ready market for all goods and products in the city of Para, and this property being so close, there is no delay in placing the goods on the market just when required.

"Little expense need be incurred in developing the Estates beyond that of cutting the roads into the undeveloped parts of the Estates for the purpose of collecting rubber.

(Signed) H. L. CREWE

"London, 15th March, 1910."

Having regard to the present price of this, the best class of rubber, 9s. to 10s. per lb., the above estimates are considered by the Directors most conservative.

Working Capital.—After payment of the purchase consideration, the sum of upward of £30,000 should be available out of the proceeds of this issue for working capital and the general purposes of the Company, subject to the payment thereout of the preliminary expenses and underwriting commissions.

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IMAGINARY INTERVIEWS.

By Walter Moore.

XLIII.—THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

Intercepting Mr. Roosevelt in the course of his journey from Egypt to London, I reminded him of our former interview in the wilds of Africa, and claimed the privilege of another chat on the strength of it.

"Have you enjoyed your trip?" I asked.

"Fine," replied the ex-President; "I stirred up the lions some, you bet."

"You seem also to have stirred up the Egyptian Nationalists some," I remarked.

"You bet," grinned Mr. Roosevelt. "That speech of mine at Cairo was a crackerjack. You should have seen the Fuzzy Wuzzies' faces as I told them off. They expected candy, but I gave them the big stick. And they squirmed, sir; they squirmed." And Mr. Roosevelt held his sides and loudly guffawed.

"May I assume that your speech was the outcome of a desire to assist Britain in her Egyptian difficultics?"

"That's so," responded Mr. Roosevelt. "I heard they were spreading a banquet for me at your Guildhall, London, and thought if I could give your country a leg up in Egypt, the Lord Mayor might show his appreciation by including clam pie in the me-new. I haven't tasted clam pie for months and months and months, as the niggers say in the Soudan, and I've got a sorter yearning for it."

"I daresay the Lord Mayor will take the hint," I said encouragingly. "Our Lord Mayors have always been most tactful men. You are also to receive the freedom of the City, and an illuminated address, I believe."

"That so?" queried the ex-President, coolly. "Waal, I guess, if they give me clam pie, I can put up with a lot."

"Now," I continued, "I should like to give you one friendly hint, provided your paternal pride and affection will allow you to take it without offence."

"Waal?" inquired Mr. Roosevelt, looking slightly uneasy.

"It will never do to allow Kermit to appear in London with that beard he grew in Africa. Why on earth did he do it?"

Mr. Roosevelt burst into a hearty laugh. "To scare the lions, I guess," he roared.

"Well, get him to shave at once," I urged. "Otherwise in London he will be mistaken for a G. B. Shavian, or a Christian Israelite, or some such strange wildfowl. Besides, he is sure to meet Frank Richardson; and then Heaven alone knows what might happen. But come, let us try to forget the youthful indiscretion of Kermit, which so cruelly has been circulated pictorially by the *Daily Mirror*, and hope that he will not Kermit such an atrocity again. Now, tell me, will you be glad to be back in America?"

"Yep!" cried the ex-President; "God's own country is calling me pretty loud. Besides, I want to keep an eye on Taft. He seems to have let down Canada pretty easy on the tariff question, but not easy enough."

"I'm very pleased to hear you express such friendly sentiments towards Canada," I murmured gratefully.

"I guess it's only natural to feel kinder friendly towards one's own folk," remarked Mr. Roosevelt, winking broadly.

"What do you mean?" I asked.

"Don't the best part of the Canadians come from the United States?" demanded Mr. Roosevelt. "Don't the advertisements in the Canadian papers say 'No Englishmen need apply'? Aren't most of the best billets in Canada filled by the natives of God's own country?"

"I'm afraid there's a great deal of truth in what you say," I admitted gloomily.

"Don't you know that it is the ambition of my country to absorb Canada in course of time? And this being so, is it not a politic move for us to lower to the limit the tariffs between the two countries, to foster a friendly feeling which may become strong enough to outweigh the old-fashioned sentiment, which is the only thing that binds Canada to England to-day?"

"Your remarks are very disturbing," I said; "but is it not possible that you have underestimated the affection of Canada for the Old Country? Is it not possible that instead of the United States absorbing Canada, one day Canada will absorb the United States, by virtue of her greater natural resources?"

Mr. Roosevelt looked at me fixedly for a moment.

"I should smile," he said—and did.

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THE DRAMA OF TO-DAY.

By M. Clement Scott.

"Alias Jimmy Valentine."

After the strong drink of powerful stuff we have been dosed with at the Duke of York's Theatre, Charles Frohman has said, "Now I'll give the people a pleasant, easily-digested sugar-plum as a nice relief," and the public has jumped at it and swallowed it down with tremendous relish.

Could Mr. Frohman have possibly found a greater contrast to John Galsworthy's "Justice" than Paul Armstrong's "Alias Jimmy Valentine"?

In the first named tragedy Mr. Galsworthy makes his heroine a sort of modern Eve—the downfall and ruin of man. In the American comedy—suggested by O. Henry's short story, "A Retrieved Reformation," Mr. Armstrong depicts an ideal kind of woman, a fashionable saint, the redeemer and saviour of sinners.

And once more I cannot help drawing a comparison between the English and the United States plays, for over here Mr. John Galsworthy shows us that when a man has been in gaol there is no hope left for him, he *must* commit other crimes, and so be taken back to prison existence again and again, but Paul Armstrong refuses to let so fine a character as Jimmy Valentine spend a pitiful life immured within the narrow space of four thick walls, so he turns him into a hero, who not only redeems his own good name, but helps his fellow prisoners into the bargain, and the result is such a happy blend of drama, excitement and sentiment that the effect of "Alias Jimmy Valentine" is a decidedly healthy and stimulating one.

But, and herein doubtless lies the success of the play, the acting without a single exception is superlative in every detail.

Mr. Guy Standing, as Detective Doyle, with his slouching, easy-going, know-everything-at-a-glance sort of manner, is a performance to be seen in order to be thoroughly appreciated; the "forger" of D. J. Williams and the "sneak thief" of Fred Cremlins are brilliant bits of theatrical talent; the two children the most natural who have appeared on any stage; "an old offender," a most admirable touch of colour supplied by that experienced actor, Harry Nicholls; Rose Lane, sweetly played by pretty Alexandra Carlisle, and last and best, Jimmy Valentine, superbly and most truthfully personated with all that highly-strung nervous impetuosity belonging as a rule only to the French school by Gerald du Maurier.

Mr. Armstrong makes you feel that the love of a pure and innocent girl can humanise the most confirmed of criminals, and that it is quite possible with a *leader* such as Jimmy Valentine, to make converts of the most hardened of thieves.

Mr. Armstrong has given us by far the best of the "burglar plays" up to the present moment, and it should fill the Comedy Theatre for a long time to come.

Rejane in London.

Surely there is no incident in Réjane's career that has not been "hotted up" in the English press during the past few days as a "send-off" to her present engagement at the Hippodrome.

Personally, I absolutely refuse to inform you that she is on speaking terms with every crowned head in Europe, that her mules were given to her by the late King of Portugal, that her real name is "Réju," and that her daughter Germaine speaks English as well as any Britisher. But what I should like to impress upon you is that Réjane as Lolotte is funnier than ever she was, and proves herself certainly to be still the finest French comedienne of her day.

The little one-act comedy in which she is playing is a piece of commonsense belonging to the old school of acting, but Réjane manages to squeeze every atom of fun out of it, and no admirer of real art should fail to pay a visit to the London Hippodrome while this great artist is appearing there.

A Charming Prima Donna.

News from the artistic city of Florence tells me that Madame Maud Thecla, an English singer hitherto unknown to Italian fame, has created an enormous success at the Opera House as Elisabeth in "Tannhauser."

Madame Maud Thecla is said to possess an extraordinarily beautiful voice, and the enthusiasm of the audience at her *debut* was quite remarkable. Madame Maud Thecla's real name is Madame Mayer, and she is the lovely young wife of Gaston Meyer, well-known in the theatrical world, chiefly as being associated with "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch" and "The Brass Bottle," now running at the Vaudeville in the Strand.

An Alhambra Attraction.

Those of our readers who desire to see one of the daintiest sketches ever brought over to this country from Paris should make a point of securing seats at the Alhambra before the engagement of Mlle. Gaby Delys expires.

THERE is going to be a big demand for this collar. As an appropriate and becoming shape for business and general wear, and for men of almost every age, it is hard to find its equal. Its merits have already been proved.

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JOHN BULL'S WOMENFOLK.

By Mrs. Bull.

Dapper Feet.

There is no doubt that this year the long-determined attempt to get white stockings worn with black shoes will succeed in becoming a fact. Last summer the combination of coloured stockings with black shoes was much in vogue, and rather outdid in smartness the shoes and hosiery and dress to match idea. But the white stocking is set upon having its day, and with a certain style of dress, and on a certain kind of wearer, will look wonderfully dainty and old-world. But it should not be worn except by the girl who is going in for a "country Phyllis" sort of effect, there should be much white about the costume, and the whole of the dress, and hat, and hair-dressing should be in tune with its clear note of simplicity, or great will be the failure, and dreadful the result in untidiness. For the danger of white stockings is just that—their undoubted untidiness. They quickly get to look "rucked," and naturally their readiness to soil is against them. On the other hand there is a charm, hard to analyse, about white ankles and the black rims of slippers below them, that has its prototype in the dainty fawn, with its neat white legs and tiny black hoofs. It is the same effect of white spats over black shoes that gives the uniforms of some of the Highland regiments such a smart and dapper appearance. Only one would have to keep these very dapper indeed, or a woeful Dorothy Draggletail would result.

Foolish Virgins.

Every marriage season one hears fresh protests against hatless bridesmaids—there has just occurred another at a seaside town—by the unfortunate clergymen who have to conduct the weddings, but whose own rules do not allow this unceremonial practice. Some of the bridesmaids, debarred from exhibiting their hair in this fashion, wax indignant and say hard things about the parson, and wonder the British public put up with such tyranny, etc., etc. But for me the wonder is not at the parson, but at the bridesmaids, for ever wanting to do anything so unbecoming as appearing hatless in an unlighted church. Nothing could be more trying to the average girl than this. The light is usually greenish grey, and comes from high windows, the most awful kind of light for complexions; or else it is purple and crimson and yellow from stained windows, a distinct test, one would suppose, of regular features! Added to this, very little sun can really shine in most churches at two o'clock in the afternoon, so that there is no fine effect of light on that wonderfully done hair: it might, indeed, be badly done for all the audience can see of it. If weddings took place in the evening there might be some excuse. But as it is, the big, fluffy, delicate-coloured hats, or great black, white-plumed hats, which are always in vogue for bridesmaids, are far the best solution, since they can well stand the church's vagaries, and they shade and soften and beautify the wearer's face. Actually it is just that want of a big head-covering which accounts for the fact that the prettiest "white bride" rarely strikes one as pretty during the ceremony, though she does so at the reception later on. Even she ought to wear a well-upstanding wreath or tiara of blossoms under her veil to break the harsh rays of those "dim, religious" windows.

Rolling Charms.

I think one of the oddest developments of the rinking craze is the enthusiasm with which middle-aged matrons have taken it up in dozens, affirming, most of them, that they are doing this to chaperon their daughters. But do they skate on real ice to chaperon their daughters? Do they toboggan and join skieing parties at Grindelwald for the same purpose? Many of them do not even dance for that laudable end, and regard golf as far too exhausting. I have been dumb with surprise, once or twice lately, on being told by certain heavily built, inert matrons of my acquaintance that they are going in for rinking. And I have not been surprised, though regretful, to hear shortly after that they have broken an arm or an ankle. One does not want to say, "I told you so," but it does seem dreadfully obvious that a woman between forty and fifty who is utterly unaccustomed to violent exercise, and who, moreover, has gone the way of all flesh—increased—should, when she takes to the giddy roller, come to rapid grief. The poor thing hasn't a single muscle in training, and the first sharp turn overbalances her, and great is the fall thereof. But why she should want to do it at all is a constant puzzle. Rushing about indoors, as all English winter-rinks simply mean, is only heating and exciting, without bringing any oxygen to counteract its bad effects on a stoutly-built woman. And, if I may venture to say so, queenly beauty looks all wrong on rollers, and all, or nearly all, middle-aged women should go in for being queenly. One can neither imagine Juno, or Cleopatra, or Gainsborough's Duchess of Devonshire doing such skittish things, and yet they had their own worlds to rule over—not to roll over. Haply the craze—for the chaperons—will not last long. It is to be hoped not, if they are to retain any corners unchipped.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

See page iii. of Cover.

A Leather Merchant

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Rheumatism	Maternity Weakness	Malaria
Brain-fag	Nervous Headaches	Sleeplessness
Indigestion	Sciatica	Nervousness

and all disorders consequent upon a reduced state of the nervous system.

THE REMEDY OF KINGS.

Phosferine has been supplied by Royal Commands

To the Royal Family	H.M. the King of Greece
H.I.M. the Empress of Russia	H.M. The King of Spain
H.M. the Queen of Roumania	The Imperial Family of China

And the Principal Royalty and Aristocracy throughout the World.

Bottles, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6. Sold by all Chemists, Stores, &c.
The 2/9 size contains nearly four times the 1/1½ size

BULL'S EYES.

NOTES OF INTERROGATION:—
Who says the Premier is not a man of "resolution"?
Wasn't John Burns a "doctor of laws" already?
Doesn't Sir William Bull wish his name was "John"?
Is it the *post* or the *man* Mr. Balfour thinks is worth £5,000?
Is the Tariff Reform League really "going begging"?
Why not have the Laundry Exhibition at the Law Courts as usual?
Isn't the "strap-hanger" a standing nuisance?
Has Keir Hardie got a real Pal at last?
Wouldn't more "births" remedy the teachers' grievance?
Will free drinks be provided with the billiard table at Parkhurst new prison?
Don't we want "better" instead of "more" judges?
Will the threatened cigar war be a "stub"-born one?
Why call it the "Independent" Labour Party?

"The Naked Truth" is the name of a forthcoming play. A tragedy, of course?

A horse named Cuffs won a race the other day. Did the owner keep it up his sleeve?

The introduction of Madeira peas at Covent Garden should result in other varieties being made cheaper.

Mr. Cannon, Speaker of the U.S.A. House of Representatives, has been "fired."

At a dinner to Peary in New York, the health of "King Henry VIII. of England" was drunk. So was the toastmaster, we imagine.

A Chichester man has died of eating too many sultanas. We can hear the average schoolboy's, "What a death!"

Mr. Austen Chamberlain attributes much of the decrease in drinking to the railway companies. Certainly their prices are discouraging.

In Surrey alone nearly twelve thousand pounds was paid last year in fines, mostly for excessive speed, by motorists. More power to them.

Mr. Chiozza Money will not contest North Paddington again, we hear. A Money-tarry trouble?

"Sport in the House," is the subject of an article in a contemporary. But the real sport is to come.

The girls at the Hungarian school, who threaten to strike against tightly plaited hair, should toss up—heads or tails.

"There is little real agreement on the aim of education," says Mr. Oscar Wihl. No wonder it is so generally a-miss.

A new temperance drink is stated to have "a satisfying effect." One glass is sufficient, we presume.

The headline, "Making Laws with Fists," suggests that some legislators believe in doing things with all their might.

The man charged with tearing down the blinds, and throwing out all the cushions of a railway carriage, must have been travelling with a strip-ticket.

If, as is stated, a good second-hand hansom cab can be bought for £5, the hire ought to be lower.

"Should Women Act as Magistrates?" is being asked. Certainly they know how to lay down the law.

"The world is not a playground," says J. A. Cotton. No, for many it is a workhouse.

A bear which escaped from a circus was found in a dressing-room. Just where the bare would go.

The two babies born on a liner going from New York to Liverpool will be rocked in the cradle of the deep.

"Suicide Through Halley's Comet," is the latest. Well, it has driven us all nearly mad.

The new play, "The Way the Money Goes," ought to be a big success. It's what everyone wants to know.

The *Daily Mirror* has been turned into a limited company. We trust the shareholders will never have unpleasant reflections.

"Comets are bad things to photograph," says Sir Robert Ball. One can't be positive about the negative, we presume.

THE PROVIDENT ASSOCIATION OF LONDON LTD.
PROVIDENT HOUSE, BISHOPSGATE STREET WITHOUT, LONDON, E.C.
FOUNDED 1877.
Invested Funds £3,765,792.
ADVANCES UPON HOUSE PROPERTY TO CERTIFICATE-HOLDERS AND POLICY-HOLDERS EXCEED
Five and a half Millions

THE PROVIDENT FREE HOME ASSURANCE CO., LTD.,
INCORPORATED 1889.
Invested Funds Exceed £80,000.
W. W. BENHAM, *Manager*, PROVIDENT HOUSE, BISHOPSGATE STREET WITHOUT, LONDON, E.C.

This is our Popular
"LUDGATE" STYLE.

We are now making this Smart, Gentlemanly Suit in all the newest and most attractive suiting cloths, specially produced by the leading cloth manufacturers for the present season's wear. We have a fine range of Tweeds, Cheviots, and hard wearing Yorkshire Suitings, and our patterns include a splendid choice of the extremely popular shadow-stripes, both broad and narrow, in Olive and Brown shades and other attractive colourings. A good selection of reliable, wear resisting Worsted Serges and plain Black and Blue Vicuna Cloths.

The "LUDGATE" Style is not only a thoroughly up-to-date gentlemanly suit in appearance, but it is thoroughly well made, cleverly cut, carefully tailored and trimmed and finished in perfect taste. Our keen rock-bottom prices and convenient easy terms enable you to study your appearance at a surprisingly moderate outlay, and without feeling the effort.

SEND A POST CARD for patterns, and we will immediately respond with a full range of attractive materials cut from the cloth lengths now being made up. Our simplified self-measure form is also included.

WE DELIVER this handsome, well-tailored suit, exactly to your measures for only **2/6** with order and if your are entirely satisfied with the garments when tried on, send 2/6 on delivery and the balance is payable by six monthly instalments of 5/-, but if you are in the slightest degree disappointed with either the cut, fit, or tailoring, we engage to instantly return the whole of the money paid.

EVERY GENTLEMAN who appreciates STYLE, COMFORT and ECONOMY, should send a Post Card at once for our new selection of Suiting Patterns at 35/- 42/- and 45/- delivered for small deposit and easy monthly payments.

Say if dark or light patterns are preferred.

J.G. GRAVES Ltd.
SHEFFIELD

VENTURES AND THE RUBBER BOOM.
SEE THE
"WEEKLY REPORT,"
10-13, Broad St. Avenue, London, E.C.

Fill in this Coupon for Sample Copy Free.
NAME.....
ADDRESS .....

What Is Your Number?

See page iii. of Cover.

JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

[The Editor *replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.*]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when sending cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when referring to previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag,"* AND ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write names and addresses upon the back of their work. The Editor can accept no responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPES ARE SENT FOR THE PURPOSE. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

The Editor *can express no opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be sent in the first instance: if inspection of the originals is required, a request will be forwarded to that effect.*

Compo (Liverpool).—Please communicate fully with us, in confidence.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Croydon Common Football Club, apropos a recent paragraph, says that since his club started the "Army" has received the sanction of the Football Association to a collection at a match during "Self-Denial Week," and the same course has been adopted in the case of the Millwall Club. Both applications came before the same meeting of the Association, with the result that the reporters misconstrued them into a match between the two clubs for the benefit of the "Army." As a matter of fact, the Croydon Common collection was made at a match between their Reserves and Brighton Reserves. We are glad to give the explanation, which, however, does not affect our point—which was that the "Army," while officially decrying the sport and treating its supporters as little better than criminals, does not hesitate to sponge upon them.

J. E. E. (Oxford).—When we get that Business Government its Post Office *will* be responsible for such mistakes.

The Staff of the Horton Asylum complain of the quality of their food. "We have for some time past," they say, "consumed the cows from our farm after they have finished their period of lactation. But now they are introducing the sows and boars after they have finished their work at the stud." The boar must be very tough!

H. G. B. (Finsbury Park).—The lottery is genuine—but illegal. The Postmaster-General winks at it. All for the cause!

H. S. B. (Lewes).—We are not military experts. Get your local M.P. to worry Mr. Haldane.

E. H. (Surrey).—The staff of the S. E. Railway may be underpaid, but we don't think that is how the money was raised for the new £20,000 train. Ask the Pullman people.

A. D. (Leadenhall Street) wants us to take up the cause of the Commissionaires employed by the Deutsche Bank. What next? What with German cranes and one thing and another, we shall soon have enough to do.

P. D. C. (Muswell Hill).—See reply to J. E. E. (Oxford).

W. T. (Chelsea).—We recently called the attention of the Board of Trade to the Tube overcrowding.

E. V. S. (Manchester) wants a biscuit for the *Daily Dispatch* for referring to Mr. Horace Avory as a counsel who has had "long experience in crime." Where is the joke?

H. F. J. B. (Kensington) sends us the *St. Laurence* (*Brondesbury*) *Parish Magazine*, in which the vicar on one page calls upon his flock to abstain from all luxuries in food and pleasure during Lent; and says, "What you save by this abstinence give to God's service on Easter Day." Then in another part of the magazine it is stated "The Easter offerings will be given to the vicar." We are afraid our correspondent is a little hypercritical. It is the same thing.

K. D. (Golder's Green) complains of the inadequate local postal facilities. From what he says, the inhabitants of that part might just as well live in the crematorium.

The Universal Electric Supply Company, of Brook Street, Manchester, complain of an enquiry made to us about them by A. W. B. (Letchworth), who said he sent them money. They think he should have written to them first, and they cannot trace him on their books. They say they have been in business for more than eighteen years, and can supply plenty of testimonials.

"Cymro" (North Wales) accuses us of nagging eternally at teetotalers, and says that though he is himself "a teetotaler, of course," he goes into a public-house and stands his round with anyone who will drink with him. This is very nice, and we have given Jim Crow his address.

W. S. (London) says "England has no use for the trimmer—lie down." But we can't lie.

(*Continued on page 526.*)

Famous

GIRL PREACHER

Cured of Chronic Choking Cough and Nasal Catarrh.

Miss Storr.

Mrs. Bradley Storr, the well-known evangelist and mother of Frances and Rose Bradley Storr, the famous girl preachers, writing from 43, Abbott St., Doncaster, says:—"I cannot thank you enough for what Veno's Lightning Cough Cure has done for my two girls. They were never free from a fearful, stubborn, choking cough and nasal catarrh, the stuffed-up feeling in the head and nose, difficult breathing, and accumulation of phlegm being acute. Frances had her tonsils cut, but the cough got chronic, and I was frightened of her going into consumption. I tried everything, but nothing did any good till I tried Veno's Lightning Cough Cure. I gave her the first dose one afternoon, and it immediately brought up the phlegm, and stopped the cough, and the same evening she preached to a crowded congregation. Truly, an extraordinary cure. I am sending this testimonial voluntarily solely for the benefit of other sufferers."

Veno's Lightning Cough Cure is the Safest & Surest Remedy for:—

COUGHS & COLDS. BRONCHITIS. WEAK LUNGS. INFLUENZA. SORE THROAT.

9½d. a bottle.

ASTHMA. NASAL CATARRH. CHILDREN'S COUGHS. OLD-AGE COUGHS. BLOOD-SPITTING

Larger Sizes, 1/1½ and 2/9, of all Chemists.

VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE.

I CURE RUPTURE

NO FURTHER USE FOR TRUSSES.

If you are ruptured or know of anyone suffering from rupture, you should interest yourself at once in my Method of Cure. My plan differs from all others in the fact that it not only retains any kind of rupture continually and securely with perfect comfort, but causes new flesh to form in the ruptural opening, thus binding the broken place firmly, and producing an absolutely perfect and permanent cure. Such is my Method does this I have proved again and again that I can cure rupture even after two operations have failed to cure. Mr. Wm. Edwards, Brook Cottage, Taff's Well, via Cardiff who was soundly cured at the age of 53 years, says, "I am writing to thank you for the wonderful cure I have received through your Treatment after suffering **30 years** from a **double rupture. I am completely cured, and have not worn any truss this four years.** I have given it a good test, and am as strong as ever."

Mr. Wm. Edwards.

This case is one of the many thousands which have entirely dispensed with a truss after using my Method of curing rupture—a thoroughly tried method that has cured every kind and condition of rupture in men, women and children, the labouring man as well as the gentleman of leisure, at home, without pain, danger, operation or loss of time, and at a small cost.

A very valuable treatise on Rupture has just been issued, which will enable any sufferer to know as much about the true nature of Rupture as any ordinary Doctor. It also explains fully the process of cure, and will show you just what to do to be cured. A cure will mean freedom from suffering and years of comfort added to the length of your life. I desire to place a copy in the hands of every ruptured person, for the great benefit I know it will be to them. For the immediate relief of all ruptured people a sample treatment and complete detail will be sent free (sealed and post paid) to all who write within the next 30 days. Address WILLIAM S. RICE, F.S., Ltd. G.P.O. Box No. 5 (B 1343), 7 & 9, STONECUTTER STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Oil for the Empire from the Empire.

The market movements in Rubber Shares during the past two years have been phenomenal; but the coming movement in Oil Shares promises to be equally as phenomenal during the next two years. Oil production from the British Colonies will be the feature.

AFTER RUBBER—OIL.

For particulars of Oil Companies and prices of Oil Shares write—

GEO. MACDONALD, 560-1-2, Salisbury House, London, E.C.

£10 FOR YOU!

A Prize of **£10** will be awarded for the best idea submitted for advertising the new home paper, **"MY WEEKLY."** Suggestions may take any form, and can deal with any effective method of advertising. Have a try! Send your suggestion, accompanied by the front cover of the current issue of "My Weekly," to Circulation Dept., "My Weekly," 186, Fleet Street, London, E.C.

PAID AWAY TO CLIENTS

(In Speculative Accounts Only)

£353,400

(The Sign of the N. S. E. is the Size of the £. s. d.)

BY THE

NATIONAL SHARE EXCHANGE.

A CLIENT'S TESTIMONIAL.

Below we give you a copy of a Client's letter to us. There is nothing remarkable in it from our point of view (a letter of such a character—if you can imagine it—to some Stock and Share Dealers would be unique We get hundreds of such Unsolicited Testimonials. But in the course of business we publish testimonials from time to time for the benefit of that part of the Public which is not acquainted with our Business, nor with the fact that we are the Largest Firm of Stock and Share Dealers in the United Kingdom. We can hardly expect everyone to be intimate with the Nature and Success of our Business. Hence we give our Client's Letter as written.

London, S.W., March 18th, 1910.

"The Secretary, National Share Exchange.

"Dear Sir,—I am in receipt of your favour enclosing cheque for profit made and am much obliged for same.

"No doubt you receive many letters of appreciation from successful clients, and I for one should like to express my satisfaction with the result of dealings with the National Share Exchange over a period of about two years, which have made a material addition to my income.

"I have generally followed the advice contained in your leaflets and telegrams with consistent success. In fact, I can identify my few losses almost entirely with those ventures when I have used my own judgment, or have not acted promptly on your advice, which I consider essential to success.

"Several of my friends to whom I have recommended the National Share Exchange are equally satisfied, particularly with the courteous attention to their business and your prompt settlements.

"Wishing you continued success, and with compliments,

"I am, Yours faithfully, (Signed) "T. J. B."

THE LETTER ANALYSED.

Let us now, in the interests of clients and ourselves, examine and analyse this letter. We shall then arrive at a definite conclusion as to its value. In the first sentence our client acknowledges cheque for profit. This shows, then, that his deal or deals were successful. He is right in surmising that we receive many letters of appreciation from successful clients, and he proceeds to say that he is satisfied with the result of dealings with us over a period of two years. The word "satisfied" might be a doubtful recommendation to the hypercritical, but our client frankly admits that the dealings have made a material addition to his income. That should remove any lingering prejudice in the minds of those who know nothing of our business, or who have never had dealings with us.

Note, further, that he says he has "generally" followed our advice. This, of course, implies that there have been times when he has not followed it. What was the result then? asks the shrewd reader. Our client is definite on that point. He says: "I can identify my few losses almost entirely with those ventures when I have used my own judgment, or have not acted promptly on your advice" Our advice he considers "essential" to success.

It appears that he has also recommended us to his friends. Now, a man has to be very sure before he will take the responsibility of recommending anyone to his friends. It is like putting a man up for your club, which (to be guilty of a bull) you don't do unless you are absolutely sure of him. Now, what was the result of this recommendation of us to his friends? They are "equally satisfied, particularly with the courteous attention to their business and your prompt settlement." All we say to this is that we like to do the right thing in the right way. Finally he wishes us continued success. He is perfectly right in wishing us success, for our success is our clients' success. Thus only can we retain them.

BUSINESS IS BUSINESS.

But we do not ask you on the strength of this, or of anything that is said, to start business transactions with us. We desire that you will make investigation into the methods of our business first. An enquiry on the Form will bring a commuication from us, giving you particulars of the System of Business, originated by us, which is so eminently successful in its financial results to Clients.

APPLICATION FOR PARTICULARS.

TO THE SECRETARY,
NATIONAL SHARE EXCHANGE, Great Winchester St., London, E.C.

Please forward me (as my name is not already on your books) full particulars of your methods and system of money-making, as well as a list of cheques, totalling £353,400, which you have paid clients acting on your advice and recommendations, together with a Search Form, so that I can verify any single cheque, or batch of cheques that I may select.

NAME .....
(State Rev., Mr., Mrs., Miss or Title)

ADDRESS IN FULL.....

.....
(Please Write Distinctly)

J.B. 225.

DATE.....

This and all our advertisements are copyright.

"Cyclist" complains of his treatment at the hands of L.B. and S.C Railway, in connection with the injury of a bicycle. He has been put to a lot of trouble in obtaining payment for the damage caused by the railway company, and says, "If the company were a bit slower at taking advantage of a poor devil who happens to owe them a shilling," he would be prepared to give them more grace. But companies have no souls.

"Nemo" (Swansea).—We cannot enter into the circumstances attending the capture of Mr. Raffles, but we contemplate offering a prize shortly for the capture of "Jim Crow."

"Spooked."—The explanation is simple. Our cover has to go to press some days before the paper is finally made up, and it sometimes happens that at the last moment the pressure upon our space compels us to omit some features which it had been intended to include

E. C. K (Cricklewood) evidently suffers from lesions of the brain. He has received a circular in an open envelope with a halfpenny stamp. It was surcharged: "1d. to pay. Liable to letter rate," but this was afterwards obliterated. His conclusion is that the postal officials must have read the communication, and that it was very naughty of them to do so. But as the communication emanated from a notorious blood-sucker, they are freely forgiven.

W S. H. (Chorley Wood) warns us against a bookmaker called John Bull. It is unfortunate that he should have chosen that name, but it has not saved him from our criticism.

R. H. C. (Anerley).—No, it hadn't occurred to us that kissing was "a dirty piece of business fraught with evil"—except in the case of a dirty book.

J. L. (Ossett).—We still think that people who are unfortunate enough to get into debt have quite enough trouble without being pilloried in the papers.

J. H. (Swansea).—The gentleman who advertised the loss of a small gold locket "containing two Cabinet photographs" must have large ideas.

W. A. C. (Sunderland).—Your suggestion for a cartoon might lead to sneers. It is not always good stuff which goes through a sieve.

P. R. B. (Baldock) wants to organise inventors. We should prefer to drown them.

A. E. S. (Southampton) is very anxious to know why Princess Henry of Battenberg does not go to Spain. Mothers-in-law, however, are sometimes more popular at a distance.

T. J. W. (Reading) says he has a dog who collects for a hospital. Does he get a commission on the collection—in meat or biscuits?

E. M. (London, S.E.) wants us to confer an incalculable boon by strongly advising seekers of situations not to enclose stamps for reply. He thinks many bogus advertisements are inserted for the collection of this small toll.

"Gorebridge."—There is no pay attached to the office of Prime Minister, as such.

"Anticant."—We hope your liver has been benefited by your outburst.

S. B. (Taunton).—Even if a man is very much disliked in your neighbourhood that is no reason why we should pick a quarrel with him.

H. W. B. (London, E.C.) wants advice about an ex-soldier of 30 joining the Police Force.

"A Human Sheffielder."—People may break several ribs and know nothing about it for days.

F. N. (Lower Edmonton).—We never enquire into the antecedents of ladies.

(We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.)

TRADE NOTES.

Toilet Soap Free.—Much interest is being taken in an interesting announcement made in the advertisements of the Oatine Co., the manufacturers of the well-known Oatine Toilet Preparations, who are giving away for a limited period tablets of Oatine Toilet Soap absolutely free. They are doing this to introduce and popularise this excellent toilet soap, which possesses many special qualities Being manufactured from the purest materials, it contains no alkaline properties, and as in all the Oatine preparations, the base from which it is made is the healing essence of the finest oats, the finest thing imaginable for the complexion. Besides the tablet of Oatine toilet soap, the Oatine Co. send a dainty toilet case containing samples of eight of the other Oatine preparations, which will be found most useful, and we recommend our readers to write, enclosing 3d. in stamps, to pay the cost of postage and packing, when they will receive these delightful articles by return of post. All applications should be addressed to the Oatine Co., 270b, Denman Street, S.E.

The Book for Business Men.—At this time of day it is a truism to speak of the extraordinary development of business enterprise and of business activities. Rather it behoves the practical man—he who is determined not to be left behind in the race of commercial life—to find out how he may best keep abreast with these activities. The very simplest, as it is certainly the most effective way, to ensure success in the business world, is to become the owner of "The Business Encyclopædia," and to make constant and intelligent use of it. "The Business Encyclopædia" is written by business men eminent in the business world, and well known as men who have built up their own businesses from small beginnings to the splendid concerns they are to-day. "The Business Encyclopædia" will be delivered to our readers for a first payment of 1s. 6d., the balance being paid by a few small monthly payments, while the owner is using it and making himself efficient by its means. All particulars of this very advantageous offer will be sent by return on receipt of a postcard by The Caxton Publishing Company, 54, Surrey Street, London, W.C.

This fellow is satisfied.

WE ARE NOT.

We want to do more business in

DIVAGRAPHS

To prove that the DIVAGRAPH is the best and simplest device for making 150 copies from a hand-written and 50 copies from a typewritten original, we will send a Complete Duplicator, foolscap size, carr. paid, without deposit on trial.

No obligation whatsoever if returned.

THE D. DIVA COMPANY,

14, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.

Sole Agencies for Counties granted to established Commission Firms.

SEED POTATOES.

Working Men and Allotment Holders buy your Seed Potatoes from the right firm at the right prices.

Dalmeny Hero, Table Talk, The Factor, Duchess of Cornwall, The President, King Edward VII., Scottish Triumph, Lord Dundonald, Sir John Llewellyn, Royal Kidney, British Queen, Pioneer, Radium, Evergood, Up-to-Date, Dalmeny Acme and Eating Potatoes. 1st. per 14 lbs., 1/9 per 56 lbs., 3/- per 112 lbs.

Snowdrop, Epicure, Snipes, and Sharpe's Express and Curtis' Wonder, 1od. per 14 lbs., 2s. per 56 lbs., 3/6 per 112 lbs

Beauty of Hebron, Sharpe's Victor, Myatt's, May Queen, Duke of York, Ninety Fold, Windsor Castle, Early Rose, Early Puritan, Pink Hebrons, and White Hebrons. 1/- per 14 lbs., 3/- per 56 lbs., 5/3 per 112 lbs

Sacks free for cash with order. Free on Rails. Sent to any address immediately on receipt of P.O. Send for full Price List of Potatoes, Peas, and Beans and particulars of our Cash Prize Competition Telephone and Telegraph Post 6d. pint, 1/1d. quart

C. L. CURTIS (85), Anchor St., Chatteris, Cambs.

40% Higher Wages!

Would you like to increase your wages by nearly one half? Then read this:—

Student W. BETTS writes to the International Correspondence Schools:—"I have to thank you for your valuable Correspondence system of Technical Training, and for securing me a position with Messrs. Clayton & Shuttleworth, Ltd., Lincoln, at an increase of over 40% in my wages, although only a student for six months."

The same thing is happening every day to I.C.S. students at home and abroad in mining, art, civil service, engineering and every other vocation.

An I.C.S. Course will lift you in your present work or secure you a more lucrative position. You simply study at home in your spare time—then get a better job. Over 120 different practical I.C.S. Courses. Send postcard and say which you would like to know about, free of charge. Let us refer you to successful students in your district

International Correspondence Schools, Ltd.

Dept. 233.K, International Buildings, Kingsway, London, W.C.

Indigestion & the Sedentary Life

Digestive troubles are often due to sedentary habits and insufficient exercise—unfortunately a common state of affairs

The troublesome symptoms usually experienced—Heartburn, Flatulence, etc.—are due to acidity in the stomach set up by undigested food. Dr. Jenner's Absorbent Lozenges have the remarkable property of absorbing the acidity and give speedy and permanent relief in all digestive disorders.

A sufferer from "bad attacks of indigestion" says: "The lozenges have never failed to relieve me. I think they are invaluable to people whose occupations are of a sedentary nature." These lozenges are perfectly harmless. They are made solely by Savory and Moore from the famous Dr. Jenner's formula. Boxes, 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d. and 4s. 6d.

A FREE TRIAL BOX will be forwarded to all who write enclosing 1d. for postage, and mentioning John Bull, to Savory and Moore, Ltd., Chemists to The King, 143, New Bond Street, London.

DR. JENNER'S Absorbent LOZENGES

The Cheapest Piano in the World!

THE

UNEX

"MARVEL" PIANO.

Trade Mark. Beware of Imitations.

British made—guaranteed 10 years.

Search the World over, you will not find a cheaper high-class Piano than the "Marvel." It is a high-class Piano, remember, not a shoddy instrument made for quick sale. The "Marvel" is guaranteed for 10 years, by a firm whose integrity cannot be doubted. This guarantee is your "safeguard."

£15 15 0 Or 12 Quarterly Payments of £1 10 3

Note the price of the "Marvel" and note also the easy-payment system. The "Marvel" is a triumph of British Workmanship. It is not a product of sweated labour, the low price charged for the instrument simply means that the Firm are content with a small profit. The "Marvel" has a complete iron frame, full compass and all modern improvements. It is handsomely encased in Walnut, Oak, Rosewood or Ebonised wood. Again we state the "Marvel" is the cheapest Piano in the World.

FREE. Handsome Illustrated Catalogue giving full description of the "Marvel" and other Musical Instruments, including American Organs will be sent gratis and post free to readers of "John Bull" applying for same.

SEND FOR A COPY TO-DAY TO

The Sunday School Union Piano and Organ Saloon,

(Dept. 527) 56, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.

FOR MEN OF TASTE

There is a new note of fineness and beauty in Pyramid Handkerchiefs. Positively indelible colours, also in plain white, 9d. each, or 4/3 the half-doz., of first-class outfitters.

PYRAMID HANDKERCHIEFS

Warning: Every genuine "Pyramid" bears "Pyramid" label.

If your outfitter hasn't Pyramid Handkerchiefs, send his address to "Pyramid," 132 Cheapside, London, Proprietors, Tootal Broadhurst Lee Co. Ltd. and they will see that you are supplied at once.

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RACING NOTES.

By W. Lottinga.

("*Larry Lynx*" *of* The People, *and* "*Magpie*" *of* The Globe.)

Untrue.

There is again current a rumour that the lease of Kempton Park is expiring, and that the company propose finding a new venue in the neighbourhood of Worcester Park; but I am able to absolutely contradict this—as an entire concoction—upon the very highest authority.

Fatal.

Notice how invariably you lose, no matter what the apparent certainty, if lured into betting with one or two men in the ring who "mix" the game, but sometimes run after you to get a wager—usually when there is something at a shade of odds on.

A False Idea.

We hold the opinion that an auctioneer's position as regards racing is enviable, for it seems the easiest thing possible to have a few minutes' work over selling the winner of a race—or probably two or three others that are submitted on a racecourse. The opinion is that the auctioneer receives 5 per cent., and this is the case as regards any ordinary sale, but the new racing rule, both for flat and steeplechasing, is that only 2½ per cent. is to be paid to the man in the rostrum for all sales under the programme of the meeting—the other 6d. in the £ being added to the surplus shared by the owner of the second horse. Thus the auctioneer has no great sinecure, more especially as he is *personally* responsible for all sales—and frequently of late has there been default in payment by the purchaser. In the winter, when selling plate winners only realise as a rule anything between 50 and 100 guineas, it is not worth the auctioneer's paying his expenses to be present at a meeting, taking the risks, and then mayhap selling one horse at £50—or even, as has often happened, to find that there is no bid for either of the selling plate winners.

Prophetic.

Leicester finishes the Midland round and then comes the ever welcome Newbury, with its huge field, long prices—and upsets. At Oadby to-day,

Collegian

will win the Wigston Plate if sent for it, and, allowing for what may happen in the interim, I like nothing so well as

King Charming

on his Kempton form, for next week's Babraham Plate. Bet each way, as whatever beats the chestnut must win it.

On Saturday, the Newbury Cup will further open up the Spring Handicap form, and there has been some betting—or rather figures quoted upon it—for days. I hope my readers got the long prices against

Temeraire,

for I look upon the grey as "good" for it. The grounds are mainly his lenient handicapping, his wellbeing, and the fact that he was second best at Nottingham to Desmond's Pride. The mare is again fancied, and likes the course, but should not now beat Sir Ernest Cassel's horse who, being a bit more forward in condition, looks like getting back what he cost at the first pop.

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	TO WIN.	PLACE.	S.P. WIN.
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Second Pool closed March 8th.

Cinderello	18 to 1 ...	16 to 1 ...	9 to 1.

Final Pool closed March 15th.

Cinderello	10 to 1 ...	9 to 4 ...	9 to 1.

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S. HITCH, 188, Vesdant Lane, Catford, S.E. (No. 235,239.—February 19th.)

J. MILLER, 8, Queen Street, Leamington Spa. (No. 132,331.—February 26th.)

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of March 12:—

5112	100482	179152	213461	306558
5812	116519	179533	232248	310399
7583	118470	179648	247292	312965
25643	132368	183454	252913	331451
35669	140360	187860	260885	346796
50197	149237	197725	266991	347788
50430	149733	203665	273495	357563
66423	150725	206145	275155	366209
71697	152585	206738	303264	373999
85569	170607	210695	304657	374576

INITIAL NOUGHTS SHOULD BE DISREGARDED, BUT FINAL ONES ARE, OF COURSE, RECKONED.

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